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LONDON

REEL K 12 B

Admiralty War Diaries

1-10-41 to 31-12-41

Cont'd From Reel K-11-B

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.10.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign. - Contd.

S.C.48 (contd.) PICTOU and BROADWATER carried out attacks on 2 U-boats sighted on the surface.

VERONICA also reports that she carried out 5 attacks on a U-boat sighted at 1503Z in 57° 1' N. 22° 10' W., and considers she destroyed it.

PASS OF BALMAHA, SAMOS. See Mediterranean.

Annobon I. See South Atlantic.

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A.M.C's.

A.M. 1653A/4. On arrival in U.K. RANPURA will be taken in hand for re-arming by Messrs. D. & W. Henderson & Co. Glasgow. (D.O.D.(F) 1239A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)
RANPURA and AURANIA are due to arrive Clyde about 23/10.
2. On arrival maximum leave should be granted in accordance with A.F.O. 4374/41.
(D.O.D. (H) 1652A/17 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
My 1655A/15. ALAUNIA and ASCANIA are to be taken in hand to be fitted for tropical service. Any outstanding A's and A's and defects which can be dealt with in time required for tropicalisation should also be taken in hand.
2. A further signal will be made.
(D.O.D.(F) 1805A/17).

R.C.N. Corvettes.

Commodore WESTERN ISLES strongly recommends that R.C.N. Corvettes should be sailed to Greenock to complete with oil fuel and to give night leave to each watch prior to working up at Tobermory. (C.C.C.S. 1435A/17 to N.S.H.Q.)

S/M spare crew at Polyarno.

Your 15010/7 received and being passed to Capt. (S) 5. Yes. (F.O.S. 1808A/17 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

INDOMITABLE.

As it appears unlikely any attendant destroyers will be available during working up period it is requested arrangements may be made for at least one seaworthy craft to be available at Bermuda Jamaica and Trinidad. It is preferable these should be fast but if of even moderate speed they would be of great value.
(INDOMITABLE 1910A/17 to Adty.)

Co-operation with Russia.

S/M 175.

Molodki class S/M 175 arrived from patrol of Vardo area 16/10. One merchant vessel estimated 3000 tons torpedoed and sunk at anchor alongside newly constructed quay at Havningberg 70° 32' N. 30° 38' E. on 8/10.
Sightings. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 13090/17).

Russian torpedoes.

Your 13290/13. Torpedoes may be embarked in any suitable ship. (D.T.D. 1933A/17 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

/Murmansk.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia - contd.

Murmansk. (2) Murmansk itself is suitable port for convoy of 8 ships but rail connections not fully working and could only pass small volume traffic storage there in quantities would invite air attack.
(3) My personal view is that route should not be considered except for emergency convoy message ends. (? 2130/17 to Air Min.)

Movements.

JAY MYRLAND KENNET. Your 1758/15th to Admty. Route to Freetown. (C. in C. W.A. 0018A/17 to N.O.i/c Greenock)

TIGRIS. Your 1309C/16. Yes. (F.O.S. 0929A/17 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

HESPERUS. My 2139A/13, 1052A/14 and 1240A/16. Please add 48 hours to all times.
(F.O. Humber 0956A/17.)

AUDACITY O.G.76. AUDACITY will be required to escort O.G.76 to Gibraltar. (C. in C. W.A. 1146A/17.)

H.31. My 1426A/16/10. Sailing of H.31 from Sheerness is postponed until 22/10.
(C. in C. Nore 1146A/17 to S.7.)

TRINIDAD. TRINIDAD's 1651/16 approved so far as Plymouth Command is concerned except that it is intended that ship should sail p.m./25 after swinging.
2. Delay in programme is due to completion of outstanding work. (C. in C. Plymouth 1322/17.)

S/Ms. C. in C. H.F. has concurred with my 1734A/13.*
A.C.O.S. is requested to sail submarines accordingly on completion of gunnery exercises and fuelling. (F.O.S. 1503A/17 to A.C.O.S.
* Most Secret distribution.N.T.in W.D.

/Escort ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

Escort of FORTH.

2 Destroyers to provide escort for FORTH during passage from Clyde to Rosyth. Arrangements. (C. in C. H.F. 1712A/17 to R.A.(D) H.F.) ANTELOPE, ANTHONY detailed. (R.A.(D) H.F. 2316A/17 to C. in C. H.F.)

NORMAN.

Return to Archangel forthwith. Report E.T.A. (SUFFOLK 2056Z/17 to NORMAN.)

O.14 MINERVE.

Intend to sail O.14 and MINERVE escorted by LOCH MONTEITH at 1400A/16 for patrol in (areas) (arrangements) T.O.O 1825A/14/10. 1321A/16 follows:- From S.9. My 1825A/14/10 sailing of all three vessels delayed 24 hours. Amend times and dates accordingly. T.O.O.1321A/16. (S.9 2151A/17 to Adty.)

Operations.

Operation "Pilgrim".

My 0556/20/9. LLANSTEPHEN CASTLE and BANFORA have now been allocated to operation "Pilgrim". 2. LLANSTEPHEN CASTLE is now in Clyde and will be available on completion of repairs etc. 3. BANFORA is now in Liverpool and will move to Clyde when ready in a few days time. (D. of S.T. 0456A/17.)

British Air Operations.

P.R.U.

Now in operation to Kristiansand and Oslo. (C. in C. Rosyth 1130/17.) Cancel my 1130/17. Aircraft returned owing icing conditions. (C. in C. Rosyth 1146/17.)

R/C.

(C) Two A/C of 407 Sqdn. to carry out shipping R/C tonight on Dutch Coast from the Hook to 06° E. A/C between 0230 and 0330 hrs. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1255/17.)

Mining.

Operation H.G.

Postponed 24 hours. (C. in C. Plymouth 1130/17.) Para.17 for 050° 10' N. read 049° 10' N. (C. in C. Plymouth 1152/17 to WELSHMAN, MANXMAN.)

/Operation ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.10.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

Operation N.P.25. Intend to carry out operation N.P.25 tonight Friday. (V.A. Dover 1155A/17.)
My 1155 postponed owing to weather.
(V.A. Dover 1558A/17.)

Bristol Channel. Exploded red mine at 0820A/17 centre in 170° 1.7 miles Flatholm Light. Exploded blue mine at 0935A/17 van in 221° 1.7 miles Flatholm Light. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1230A/17.)

Liverpool. As from 0001A/19 Port of Liverpool including QZS 298 QZS 215 and QZS 303 will be closed from ½ hour after sunset until sunrise each day. Ships for Liverpool are not to enter swept channels unless they can pass Rock Light, River Mersey before time of closing port. Cancel my 1531A/10. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1837A/17.)

For information:- C.in C.W.A.from CAIRO. At 1330/16, when in 56° 20' N. 08° 50' W. two heavy underwater explosions followed. Upheaval of water occurred about 2 miles astern of CAIRO who was in rear of convoy T.C.14. No aircraft was over the position at the time and as there was a heavy sea running, it is considered that explosions were probably caused by mines.
T.O.O. 1045A/17. Ends.
(C. in C. W.A. 2309A/17 to Adty. R.A.(M))

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Convoys. TIGRIS returned 16/10 from patrol Svaerholthavet reports eastbound convoys left Honningsvaag at dawn/11 and /14 passing through 71° 02' N. 27° 00' E. thence close round Nordkin. Admty. informed. Adty. pass to SUFFOLK.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0944C/17.)

Navigational.

Weather forecast. Please pass following to Norwegian N.A. Weather Forecast for 24 hours from 1400/17.
(Adty. 1231A/17.)

/Vaternish ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational - contd.

Vaternish Light.	BRIGHTON reports Vaternish Light Skye not burning at 0640/17. Duntulm W.S. reports mist prevents certainty but it is thought that Vaternish Light still out. (R.A.(M) 2113/17 to Admty.) Vaternish Light extinguished at 2120. (C.G. Duntulm THI 2135/17.) 869QZH - Greenock area. Vaternish Light reported extinguished. (Hydr. 2255A/17 Q.Z.H. not to S/Ms at sea.)
New inshore Channel.	Your 1158A/14. It is considered that proposed new channel should run from No.56 Light-buoy to No.57B, thence direct to Sheringham. Arrangements proposed. (D. of N. 2319A/16 to C. in C. Nore.)

Casualties and Defects.

S.S. LINGFIELD.	LINGFIELD sunk after collision. Wreck not visible ? low water in 052° 28' 20" N. 002° 02' 00" E. BASSET with all survivors 22 in number landed at Harwich. (F.O.i/c Gt. Yarmouth 0510A/17, 0605A/17, 0635A/17. VERDUN 0703A/17, 0731A/17 BADGER 1515A/17.)
M/V HEENVLIET.	POZARICA reports Dutch M/V HEENVLIET sunk in collision with S.S. VESTLAND at 0200/17. VESTLAND in BB 89 bound Barry Docks has all of crew of HEENVLIET on board. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1204/17.)
AGHOIS SPYRIDOM.	In F.S.21 towed into Humber with engine disabled. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1510/17)
L'IMPASSIBLE.	Arrived 1720 in tow of tugs GOLIATH and RECOVERY escort by ARCTIC EXPLORER. (C. in C. Plymouth 1744/17.)
A/ST NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE.	My 0947A/17. Repairs will take at least 6 days. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1814A/17.)
INDOMITABLE.	My 0027A/15. Arrestor wires are now satisfactory and with assistance of signal school officers R/T sets are also working correctly. (INDOMITABLE 1916A/17.)

/MARIE ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

MARIE LOUISE MACKAY. Reports bow sheaves damaged by tanker leaving harbour. Requires repairs before commencing operations. E.T.D. will be signalled on receipt of further particulars. (N.O.i/c Londonderry 2315A/17 to C.in C. W.A.)

EMPIRE WATERHEN. Your 1045A/17. Flexible steam pipe unobtainable. Continue to stand by EMPIRE WATERHEN who should slip cable and proceed when weather moderates. (F.O.i/c Greenock 2339A/17 to MARAUDER.)

Shipping and Convoys.

F.N.33 F.S.24 My 1750A/13. No A/S trawlers available for F.N.33 and F.S.24. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1000A/17 to C. in C. Nore.)

O.S. and S.L.convoy cycle. Convoy cycle of O.S. and S.L. convoys is being extended to 12 days commencing with O.S.10 sailing on 25/10 and S.L.91 on 27/10. (C. in C. W.A. 1122A/17.)

Air protection for White Sea convoys. LONDON reports at least three enemy A/C detected in vicinity of convoy Q P one when off Cape Gorodetski but no attack developed owing to low visibility.
Request possibility of affording air protection to convoys entering and leaving White Sea be urgently examined. A possible landing ground on Chayachi Island is described on page 43 of I S T S report dated 11/8/41 on Kola Peninsula and Archangel. (C. in C H.F. 1217A/17.)

Code words for E.N. convoys. Your 2006A/16. Request early allocation of code words for E.N. Convoys. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1224/17 to Adty.)

W.N.convoys. In future request you will repeat all pre-sailing and sailing telegrams of W.N. convoys to R.A.F. 14 group. (C. in C. W.A. 1305A/17 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

/White Sea ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - contd.

White Sea Convoys.

Your 1043/16. It is not intended that Admiral -Miles' 1829/14 shall modify the standard procedure laid down in para. 3 of my 1859/30/8.
2. Ships should only act in accordance with Admiral Miles' 1829/14 if their time of arrival varies considerably from time given in convoy sailing signal.
3. Admiral Miles, if circumstances permit and he thinks desirable, is requested to continue to arrange the necessary lights based on the information signalled in para.2 (d), (e) and (f) of my 1859/30/8.
4. At the present time, however, while Admiral Miles is temporarily out of touch, S.B.N.O. Murmansk is requested to be responsible for the arrangements in para. 3 of my 1859/30/8.
5. When Admiral Miles is again in communication, he is requested to inform Admiralty and S.B.N.O. Murmansk whether he or the latter is to undertake this duty in the future.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1649A/17 to C. in C. H.F.)

H.X.152.

H.X.152. All ships arrived except SVEND FOYN straggler, torpedoed but reached Iceland (C).
(D.T.D. 2025A/17 to Opnav.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

H.G.75, conjestion at Gibraltar.

Admty 2209/16. Presume there must be very cogent reasons for cancelling Convoy H.G.75 and trust due consideration has been given to the fact that this entails some 17 additional ships lying in exposed outer anchorage during this dark period.
(ii) Para. 4. My 1930/29/9 refers.
(iii) Information graded B.3. There is to be another attempt on these ships during this dark period.
(iv) Admty 2002/7. Presume this risk was also considered when decision to lengthen convoy cycle to 29 days was made. Extension will necessitate ships being in unprotected anchorage for considerably longer period.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0914A/17 to Admty).

French Shipping.

Passings 16/10. French eastward ARCTURUS, FORT-DE-SOUVILLE and unknown trawler all full.
(V.A.C.N.A., 0917A/17 to Admty).

SURVILLE (French).

Departure 17th SURVILLE cleared for Faro Lexcoes and Oran. (Lisbon, 1216/17 to M. of W.T) Informing S. & A., N.A. Stn. (F.O.C.N.A., 1223A/17)

German report of Convoy.

Tangier's 1820/15/10 is being passed to you for information. (V.A.C.N.A., 1216A/17 to Admty).

Spanish Tankers.

Your 1630/16. (N.T. in W.D.) Spanish Tankers with Ship Navicert are not to be sent in unless definite grounds for suspicion of any particular ship, for example one reported by Consul Teneriffe, vide my 1252/11/7.
(D.E.W.D., 1243A/17 to C.C.S.O. Gib).

Portuguese mission.

Commander Uva left Lisbon by air today for London with Colonel Rolls on special mission arranged in great secrecy by Portuguese Govt.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1308/17 to Admty).

French Shipping.

Gibraltar 1025, French armed trawler LA TOULONNAISE French Ships IMERETHIE II, laden cattle on deck, MAROC full armoured lorries on deck, RHEA light, trawler MEN-GWEN, Tug L'OBSTINE, westbound.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 1727A/17 to Admty).

/LOCH OSKAIG.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

LOCH OSKAIG. — Your 2314A/13. Report details of Casualties sustained, present condition, and whereabouts. (Hd. of N. Branch, 2121A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

SEVERN. — Following is a repetition of my 1709/16. (C. in C. S.A., 0301N/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CAP VARELLA, VILLE DE VERDUN. — My 1140/2 para. 3. CAP VARELLA and VILLE DE VERDUN reported sailed eastward from Diego Suarez escorted by French Warship, date not known but probably previous to 13/10. Chesor Mauritius T 0495/14, refers. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1012/17 to Admty).

PRINCE BAUDOUIN — Your 1307N/16. Request confirmation that you intend to expedite onward passage to Mediterranean of PRINCE BAUDOUIN in accordance with A.T. 2133A/12/9 and 2343A/16/9. (D.O.D. (F), 1054A/17 to C. in C. S.A.) Your 1054A/17. BAUDOUIN is being sailed in W.S.12 19/10 to obtain (?A/S) protection, leaving convoy in about 001° 30' N., and proceeding independently at best speed via St. Helena thereafter. (C. in C. S.A., 1823N/17 to Admty).

AZALEA, SPIREA. — Sailed AZALEA and SPIREA at 1200/18 (as in signal) to comply with F.O.C.N.A.'s 1620A/9. (C. in C. S.A., 1117N/17 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst).

Freetown use of port. — A.T. 1548A/14/8 proposals contained in telegram to Governor are being implemented and M.W.T.R. is gradually taking over shore side of port from N.O.I.C. (C. in C. S.A., 1851N/17 to Admty).

GURKHA, ISAAC SWEERS. — Your 1835N/14. Request you will sail GURKHA and ISAAC SWEERS direct to Gibraltar at best speed after they fuel at Bathurst in order that they may be available for escort duties at Gibraltar as soon as possible. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2022A/17 to C. in C. S.A.) Cancel my 1835/14, not to Admty. After fuelling at Bathurst GURKHA and ISAAC SWEERS are to proceed to Gibraltar, direct at best speed. (C. in C. S.A., 2215N/17 to GURKHA, ISAAC SWEERS).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TORBAY, TETRARCH. Enemy S/M sighted in 031° 15' 028° 47' at 0400B/17 Destroyers and aircraft are carrying out A/S search in vicinity. Amend route forthwith to pass through 032° 06' 027° 20' and 032° 00' 028° 45', thence direct to Sanctuary. TETRARCH leave end of searched channel and pass through 032° 15' 029° 27' and 033° 50' 025° 00'. (Capt. S.1., 0901B/17 to TORBAY).

UNIQUE, P.31, RORQUAL, P.34. My 1255A/15 cancel reference to UPRIGHT. RORQUAL and P.34 proceed from 037° 16' 012° 56' to 038° 00' 011° 44' during daylight/19 RORQUAL then proceed to Cavoli and P.34 to operate East of 012° 00' and South of 038° 40'. Submarines (?encountered) during nights of 18th to 20/10 inclusive are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10, 1145A/17 to UNIQUE, P.31)

Benghazi Bardia bombed. Night 15/16 Oct., 18 Wellingtons bombed Harbour and shipping Benghazi and Berka Aerodrome. Bombs also dropped on Martuba Aerodrome. 6 Albacores bombed suspected petrol dump South of Bardia-Tobruk Road. Further 1 Albacore unable to reach objective bombed Wadi at Bardia where M.T. and stores are concealed. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1152/17).

BALKAN, BALCIC. My 1245B/16. Both ships passed to Aegean approx. 9 hours G.M.T. Destination Trieste. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1224B/17 to S.O.(I) Med). BALKAN, Bulgarian; BALCIC, Roumanian.

PASS OF BALMAHA, SAMOS. Torpedoes and sunk by U-boat 50 miles west of Alexandria at 0400/17 while proceeding to Tobruk with petrol and stores respectively. SAMOS Greek manned, 8 survivors so far. PASS OF BALMAHA manned by Merchant Service, feared no survivors as ship exploded. Details of casualties follow. (C. in C. Med., 1235/17 to Admty).

/Axis.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Axis Shipping, Istanbul.

My 1028A/1/9. Following is further appreciation by M.E.W. of latest shipping developments on Istanbul - Trieste service :- Ships at present employed:- ARBAZIA, ALBA JULIA, BALCIC, BALKAN, CAPO ARMA, VIRGINIA (reported transferred to -German Flag) CAPO PINO. About to be employed:- (A) Four "Adriatica" line ships, just sailing from Trieste mid-October; (B) One unidentified ship (possibly named BUTZ or derivative) sailed from Trieste 5/10 with cargo of coal. One unidentified Italian ship loading at Trieste and Fiume (20/10) for Piraeus and Istanbul. Both these ships may be included in (A). (C) Two further Italian ships, one of which is SPARTIVENTO. My 1028A/1/9 and this message not passed to S.O.(I) Istanbul. Please pass by first available "safe hand". (Admty. 1844A/17 to C.O.I.S. Alexandria).

ARCHIMIDIS.

Greek auxiliary sailing ship ARCHIMIDIS 149 gross tons, arrived Istanbul cargo Sulphuric Acid from Piraeus. Agents D.L. consignees on economic warfare suspect list. Grade B.2., 5 more similar vessels at present expected. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1540/17 to S.O.(I) Med).

LL Vessels.

Your 1756/15. Request information whether vessels comprising groups 156 and 157 have been renamed. (C. in C. Med., 1707B/17 to Admty).

MAURO CROCE, Italian.

Arrival 16th. (Barcelona, 1746/17 to M. of W.T.)

Enemy Convoy.

4 merchant ships, 5 destroyers 037° 34' 012° 10' course 180° speed 8 knots. 1 destroyer 150° Marittimo 10 miles course 330° 15 knots. All at 1540A/17. Swordfish will attack convoy before dawn. (Capt. S.10 1759A/17 to 10th S.M.F.)

Malta Raid.

C.S.R. Malta. Night 16/17 1 alert, 2 raiders dropped bomb on West coast and in sea, no damage or casualties. Hurricanes up, no illuminations or interceptions. (H.Q. Malta, 1800/17).

/Naples.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.10.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Naples bombed.

Night 16/17 Oct. 16 Wellingtons bombed Naples. Total bombs dropped 36,000 lbs, including 3 - 4000 - pounders and 16 - 1000 - pounders. 100,000 leaflets dropped. Time over target 2312 to 0103 hours. 2 aircraft returned early engine trouble. Silurificio torpedo factory probably razed by 11,000lbs. of bombs.
(H.Q. Malta, 1838/17) W.D. Note. Further details of damage given in 1854/17.

Syracuse bombed.

Day 17/10. 6 Blenheims with Hurricane escort bombed seaplane base Syracuse approx. 0850 hours. Bursts seen on target. (H.Q. Malta, 1854/17)

THUNDERBOLT.

Remain West of 024° 30' E., after 0400B/19. -(Capt. S.1., 1855B/17 to THUNDERBOLT).

THORN.

Leave your area p.m./19 and proceed Alexandria passing through 036° 22' 021° 23' and 034° 30' 024° 10' and 033° 12' 028° 08'.
Endeavour to pass through position 259° Sapienza Is. 28 about noon/20. Adjust speed to arrive Alexandria sanctuary (corrupt group) 0500R/24. (Capt. S.1. 1901B/17 to THORN)

RORQUAL.

My 1130A/17 (N.T. in W.D.) RORQUAL has returned to Malta owing to defect.
(V.A. Malta, 1920A/17 to F.O.C.N.A. etc).
My 1920A/17 and my 1130A/17. RORQUAL will sail at 1630/18 and will leave 038° 00' N., 011° 44' E. at about dusk/19 as originally arranged.
(V.A. Malta, 2310A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)
RORQUAL has returned to Malta. Swordfish will attack convoy before 0200A/18. (Capt. S.10 2045A/17 to URSULA, P.34)

HANS SCHMIDT. (German)

Arrived Mazarron from Garrucha on 13/10 to load ore. Expected to sail 16/10 for Marseilles. (D.S. 773, 17/10)

TAMPICO (Italian)

Due 17/10 from Black Sea in transit to Aegean. (D.S. 774, 18/10)

ALBA JULIA.

Now reported (B.3) in Piraeus, is due about 19/10. (D.S. 774, 18/10).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

M.L.Flotilla. My 1145A/4. (Eight 72 ft. M.Ls comprising 110th M.L. Flotilla to be put at disposal of C. in C. East Indies) Request early reply.
(D. of L.D. 1147A/17 to C. in C. E.I.)

AUSTRALIA. Special cruise. Your 1340Z/16. 2. Suggest you consider laying magnetic ground mines in Gazelle Basin and off Long Island Kerguelen by AUSTRALIA, mines being embarked from A.S.I.S. PROME at Trincomalee. 3. Further details will be signalled if you concur in this proposal.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1739A/17 to C. in C. E.I.)

Zeila. Re Proposed Free French Naval Base. (C. in C. E.I., 1910Z/17 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

HOHENFELS (German) Sunk in Bandar Gulf on 25/8, has been salved by KANIMBLA and left on 11/10 in tow of 2 tugs for Karachi. (D.S., 773, 17/10, D.O.R. 17/10)

China.

KHAI DINH. GOUVENEUR GENERAL PASQUIER. (French) Arrival 15/10. Departure 16/10 for Singapore.
(Saigon T.O.O. 0214Z/17 to M. of W.T.)

Raiders. Admty. 1827/15 last paragraph. Attention is called to similarity between ANTILLA and photograph of MANYO MARU, German raider, taken Emirau Island December 1940.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore 0304Z/17 to Admty.)

DAUNTLESS. Hong Kong departure 14/10 DAUNTLESS for Sandakan. (S.O.I. Singapore 0921Z/17 to Admty. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

DIANTHUS. My 1321Z/6. Anticipate DIANTHUS will arrive Charleston 26/10. Confirmation follows. (C.C.N.F. 0357Z/17 to B.A.R.M.)

Suspicious Ship 14/10. N.O.i/c Trinidad 1626Q/16 being passed to CIRCASSIA, PRINCE HENRY, Admiralty and B.A.D. Washington. W/T break silence to report whether this was CIRCASSIA. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0932Q/17 to CIRCASSIA.)
Your 0932Q/17. Not CIRCASSIA. (CIRCASSIA, 2220Z/17 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.C.50. My 1146Z/13. S.C.50. Task Unit 4.1.13. S.O. ST. CROIX, RESTIGOUCHE, ALYSSE, AGASSIZ, ALBERNI, WINDFLOWER, BITTERSWEET, COLLINGWOOD. (C.C.N.F. 1147Z/?17, to Comdr. Task Force 4, Admty. Opnav.)
My 1146Z/13. S.C.50. W.S.C junction for (B) read (Q) (C.C.N.F. 1503Z/17.)

Refits, Atlantic Coast. Instructions for reporting (repeats A.C.N.S.(H) 2208A/16. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1340Z/17 to C.O.A.C. etc.)
Your 2208/16. (1) This is arranged by my 1340/17. (2) N.S.H.Q's 1340/17.

PRINCE DAVID	Halifax	21/9	Uncertain
ASSINIBOINE	Halifax	14/10	25/11
HAMILTON	Pictou N.S.	17/9	Approx. 21/10
NIAGARA	Halifax	20/9	15/11
ST. CLAIR	St.John N.B	31/7	10/11
FENNEL	Halifax	13/10	10/11
HEPATICA	Halifax	7/10	19/11
RIMOUSKI	Halifax	3/10	19/11
Sub 0.15	Halifax	12/10	21/10

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1445Z/17 to Admty.)

Signals. Your 1325R/12. Provided grid signal is passed in Type X could arrangements be made for Navy Department to re-transmit the groups direct to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa? (D.T.D. 1527A/17 to B.A.D. Washington.)

DIDO. My 1228R/13. DIDO completes ex trials on 25/10/1941. No reply received to the signal quoted. (B.A.R.M. 1648R/17 to Admty.)

/Chilean ...

MOST SECRET.

17.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Chilean Warships. Re proposals to purchase. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1728A/17 to N.A. Santiago). See Lion Copy.
Reply: (N.A. Santiago de Chile 1320/17 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

U.S.Pacific Fleet liaison. Cdr. Parry reports not much more he and Lt.Cdr. Martell can do in way of advising regarding mistakes in training in Pacific Fleet. Recommended that Cdr. Parry, recently nominated as Liaison Officer designate; should now be appointed as Observer until outbreak of war, instead of Assistant N.A. Admty. 1642B/18/7 and my 1315R/23/7 refer. Recommended that Lt. Cdr. Martell be withdrawn without relief but that occasionally when a suitable officer is available he should visit Pacific Fleet. (B.A.D. 1813R/17 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT
CAP DES PALMES B.C. Papeete's No.1414 to LE TRIOMPHANT only and my 1900W/9 (i) Only fuel oil available at Suva which is similar to that provided at Tahiti gives LE TRIOMPHANT endurance of not more than 1850 miles and does not allow voyage Rarotonga and back to Fiji as intended.
(ii) No fuel oil available at Pago Pago.
(iii) For convenience of (? official) reception High Commissioner Suva would prefer your arrival should be delayed until 27/10 or better 29/10 Fiji time.
(iv) Following programme intended for LE TRIOMPHANT.
(vi) Suggest CAP DES PALMES may sail from Papeete with LE TRIOMPHANT as escort.
(LE TRIOMPHANT 1620M/17 to CHEVREUIL, etc.)

/Destroyers...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.10.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

Destroyers. Your 1218/24/9. Future disposition of these ships is under consideration here and further signal will be made. Meantime it is considered VENDETTA should be refitted and she will be sailed from Mediterranean about 20/10. If possible we would prefer refit to take place in Australia rather than Singapore. Request if this can be arranged. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2203A/17 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

NAILSEA MANOR. (torpedoed 10/10.)

LONDONDERRY'S 0535/10. Ship torpedoed was NAILSEA MANOR, 4926 tons bound for Suez. At time of being torpedoed was about 10 miles (astern of convoy?) and was being escorted by LONDONDERRY and VIOLET.
(C. in C.S.A., 0455N/17 to Admty.)

S.C.48.

S.C.48 attacked four times last night, eight ships sunk. Full report follows when situation has been clarified.
(HIGHLANDER, 0930Z/17, to C. in C.W.A.)
(D.T.D., 1124Z/17 to Opnav.)

RYM.(S.C.48.)

RYM afloat and abandoned in 057° 01' N., 024° 20' W. Bow practically cut off and twisted with 40° list. Loaded with timber. Possibility of salvage good. Ship from S.C.48.
(VERONICA, 1114Z/17, to C. in C.W.A.)
RYM, Norwegian, 1369 tons, Rimouski to Londonderry with lumber. (D.S., 774.)
D/F bearings have been obtained of a number of transmissions indicating that several U-Boats are still in vicinity of Convoy S.C.48.
(D.D.I.C. 1141A/17 to A.I.G.62, O.P.N.A.V., A.C.I.C., C.C.N.F., H.Q.C.C.

KEARNEY. (S.C.48.)

U.S.Destroyer KEARNEY torpedoed about 0200/17 in vicinity of S.C.48. U.S. Destroyers GREER and MONSEN standing by. Ship still able to steam. S O P A informed salvage tug available.
(A.C.I.C., 1157/17 to Admty.)
S S S - Composition 9 DRS, 4 EVS 32MVS 1 CAM 12 Stragglers or sunk.
(A/C F/240 1315/17 to 15 Group.)
Following received from E.A.C. Gander (begins). To C.O.A.C. Halifax, following received from LIBERATOR 9 A.P.O. W/B from U.K. 0300 G.M.T.we sighted red glow on cloud about 20 miles off Port which appear like ship on fire 057° 20' N., 024° 02' W. (ends)1150/17.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1345Z/17 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
(44 Group, 1720/17 to D.O.N.C., Whitehall.)

BOLD VENTURE
BARFONN W.C.T.
EAGLE.
ERVIKEN
EVROS.
(S.C.48.)

W.A.C.I. Part 102.
(a) 4 attacks carried out on S.C.48 at 2220,2330, 0145, and 0300 during the night 16-17 in 056° 58'N., 025° 04' W., at 2220.
(b) At least 2 U.boats attacked probably singly.
(c) BOLD VENTURE, BARFAM, (?BARFONN) (?ICTEAGLE) (?W.C.TEAGLE) ERVIKAN (?ERVIKEN) EVEROS (?EVROS.)

/42 survivors....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BOLD VENTURE
BARFONN W.C.T.
EAGLE.
ERVIKEN.
EVROS.
(S.C.48.)
(Contd.)

42 survivors in WETASKIWIN, 11 in BROADWATER, unknown number in possibly U.S. Destroyer KEARNEY, and PICTOU. Possibly more in other corvettes not yet rejoined.
(d) No report yet received.
(e) GLADIOLUS, MIMOSA, ROSTHERN not yet rejoined after looking for survivors.
(f) HIGHLANDER and BROADWATER delayed by weather did not sight convoy until second attack and joined before third attack. It appears probable that U-boats fired torpedoes from inside convoy. Attack carried out on 2 U.boats sighted on surface by PICTOU and BROADWATER.
Am retaining WETASKIWIN, MIMOSA, BADDECK, CAMROSE until 0800/18. Following is uncyphered weather report.
(HIGHLANDER, 1500Z/17 to C. in C.W.A.)

BOLD VENTURE. (ex Danish ALSSUND), 3282 tons, Panamanian, Baltimore to Liverpool.
BARFONN. (Norwegian tanker)9739 tons, Texas City to Old Kilpatrick.
W.C.TEAGLE (British tanker.) 9551 tons, Aruba to Swansea.
ERVIKEN (Norwegian), 6595 tons, Tampa to Garston.
EVROS. (Greek), 5283 tons, Victoria,Brazil, to Ardrossan.

SILVERCEDAR
ILA.
(S.C.48.)

Ref. W (?A) C I part 102. (A) Searched astern and on starboard quarter. No contact (B) starboard plus both cases (C) G. N.E. and D.E. (D) SILVERCEDAR British, number 72 sank in 5 minutes. ILA now Norwegian number 74 sank immediately. (E) SILVERCEDAR between 0630Z and 0640Z. ILA about 065° (F) 064° 9 hours. (G) Misty moon. (H) None. SILVERCEDAR, one boat one raft got away at once. ILA no (?boats) got away. SILVERCEDAR, 26 picked up. ILA 9 picked up 1 dead 12 missing. Aircraft passed over Convoy 0530Z. COLUMBIA met 1900Z,position 054° 38' N., 028° 02' W.
(WETASKIWIN, 1738Z/17 to C. in C.W.A.)
Ships in company now, BULLDOG, AMAZON, RICHMOND, GEORGETOWN,BROADWATER, WETASKIWIN, CAMROSE, MIMOSA, latter 3 leaving daylight to-morrow.
(HIGHLANDER, 1950Z/17 to C. in C.W.A.)
Your 0930Z/17, report not yet received.
What is the situation regarding escorts on S.C.48?
(C. in C.W.A., 1958A/17, to HIGHLANDER.)
D/F bearings between 1741 and 1848 G.M.T. indicate that U.Boats are still in vicinity of S.C.48.
(D.D.I.C. 2034A/17 to A.I.G.62. Opnav, A.C.I.C, C.C.N.F. H.Q.C.C.

/PASS OF BALMAHA....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.Contd.

PASS OF BALMAHA SAMOS. — Torpedoed off Alexandria. (C. in C. Med. 1235/17.) See Mediterranean.

EMPIRE WAVE. (torpedoed 1/10.) — 29 survivors landed to-day ex EMPIRE WAVE torpedoed 059° 08' N., 032° 26' W., on 1/10. 21 merchant service, 1 R.A.F. officer, 4 R.A.F., other ranks, one R.N. gunner, 2 R.N. R.D.F., ratings. Names of R.A.F., and R.N., forwarded in my 1912/17.
(A.C.I.C., 1917/17, to Admty.)
EMPIRE WAVE, British, 7463 tons, Clyde to Halifax in Convoy O.N.19. Is presumed sunk.
(D.S.774, 18/10.)

Submarines Reported.

0058C. — Bearing by D/F at 0058C/17 position of enemy U-Boat was 067° 45' N., 041° 12' E.
(S.B.N.O., Murmansk, 0152C/17.)

1230. — Following has been read. Addressed Naval General Call Sign, from ROSTHERN. One enemy submarine, 60.40N., 18.36 W.
(Iceland W/T, 1230/17.)

Estimated U/B dispositions in Atlantic.
(D.D.I.C. 1410A/17.) (U.S.C.N.O., 2025/17.)

Submarines Attacked.

By VERONICA. — Am returning to Londonderry with 30 survivors from torpedoed ships, and for fuel, depth charges and star shells before joining H.X.154 (four survivors require medical attention.) Sighted U-boat at 1503Z in 057°01' N., 022° 10' W., carried out five attacks, consider destroyed it.
(VERONICA, 2107Z/17 to C. in C.W.A.)

By PICTOU, BROADWATER. — (HIGHLANDER, 1500Z/17.) See Ships Attacked.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

One or more U-boats and several enemy A/C having recently been detected at the entrance to the White Sea, the Russian Authorities are to be asked to afford suitable A/S and A/A protection to our Convoys in those waters, but S.B.N.O. North Russia considers little result can be expected from Soviet A/S patrols (1810/21) A/S Trawlers are being prepared at home for Arctic service.

An enemy Coast Battery fired one round at 2220 last night without effect at Convoy O.N.54 off Dover.

Rescue tug ASSURANCE went ashore in Lough Foyle at 2320 today and is considered to be beyond salvage.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night or today on account of bad weather.

Mining.

Operation H.C. — The minelaying operation off Lorient by WELSHMAN and MANXMAN was postponed today for a further 24 hours on account of the weather.

Thames Estuary. — In the Thames Estuary there was some enemy minelaying activity last night. 6 Mines were detonated by sweepers yesterday, and at 1508A today the British MARSKER (7911 tons) and EMPIRE GHYLL (2011 Tons) were mined and sunk off the Gunfleet.

Bloody Foreland — R.A.M. considers it most unlikely that the Explosions in 56° 20' N. 8° 50' W. reported yesterday by CAIRO as having occurred at 1330/16 in the rear of Convoy T.C.14 were due to premature firing of British Mines, and suggests that they may have had a deeper significance.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

AUDACITY. AUDACITY, (auxiliary aircraft carrier) proposes that she should operate from Gibraltar during the winter months, escorting H.G. and O.G. Convoys.

South Atlantic.

There have been reports that U-boats may be using Annobon Island as a centre for rest and recreation if not for fuelling. It is proposed that PRESIDENT HOUDUCE should carry out a R/C of the island and surrounding waters.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Callboy". 11 Albacores have arrived at Malta. One Swordfish is missing.

Attacks on shipping. Swordfish at 0018 today attacked an escorted convoy 15 miles south of Pantellaria and claim to have torpedoed two ships of 5000 and 6000 tons respectively.

URSULA attacked a convoy at 0802A today in 35° 25' N. 11° 39' E. and thinks she sank 2 ships.

At 2005 today 6 Swordfish attacked with torpedoes a southbound escorted convoy of 4 merchant vessels 85 miles N.W. of Tripoli and report 3 hits; one 6000 ton merchant ship was stopped and a second ship was probably damaged.

It is possible that all the above attacks refer to the same convoy. Air R/C showed that only one merchant ship of the convoy arrived at Tripoli.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Shortage of long range R/C A/C.

C. in C. E.I. reports that the present lack of long range R/C A/C on the station is serious. The two Catalinas now available at Colombo are unable to meet his present requirements and will be totally in adequate in the event of a Far Eastern war.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.C.48. BROADWATER torpedoed.

HIGHLANDER reported at 0400Z today that BROADWATER one of the escort of S.C.48 had been torpedoed in 57° 1' N. 19° 8' W., BROADWATER sank at 1341Z today.

Attack on U-boat by VERONICA.

VERONICA today carried out several attacks on a U-boat in 57° 1' N. 22° 10' W., and considers the U-boat was possibly destroyed.

It is reported that the Russian S.S. ARGUN was torpedoed today in position 90° Cape Gorodetski 5 miles.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

2nd M/L Flotilla.

The Free French Division of the 20th M.L. Flotilla is to be transferred to HORNET to reinforce the 2nd M.L.F.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1516A/18).

SWORD DANCE conversion.

Request that conversion of SWORD DANCE to combined A/S and M/S be carried out in Belfast area on the next occasion of refit.
(D. of D., 1547A/18)

Reykjavik. Shipping congestion.

Your 2054A/16. Harvey in London will explain situation. Americans have programme of anticipated arrivals. We have some information of anticipated sailings of British ships from U.K. Submit requirements here are not to determine incidents of congestion but to defer or control loading to prevent it.
(D.S.T.O. Iceland, 1550/18).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Convoy Escorts.

Address to escort Task Unit Commander or to Commander Task Force 4 for escort Commander yet to be designated will be given serial number buried in the text beginning at 0000 G.M.T. /20 with number one for each convoy including convoy already organized example quote "serial one H.X.152 etc".
(U.S. Chief of Naval Ops. 1645X/18)

Co-operation with Russia.

Movements.

Embassy and Mission left Moscow for Kuibyshev 15/10. Have not established communication with them yet. Inform (corrupt group) amounts to one wing.
2. Torpedoes and five personnel leaving for Murmansk via Kandalaksha today.
3. Group Captain Bird requests you signal instructions given by Air Ministry for disposal of wing and keep him informed of their movements.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1031C/18 to Admty).

/Communications...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia. - Contd.

Communications. Propose following arrangements be made for Admiralty General Messages for S.B.N.O. Murmansk and Archangel. Details.
(D.S.D., 1247A/18 to C. in C. H.F.)
Can arrangements be made to read Rugby "GA" routine in order that general messages made by W/T on the Home Station may be received.
(D.S.D., 1248A/18 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk)

British A/C handed over. All A/C handed over to Soviet P.M. today.
(151 Wing 1802/18 to Air Ministry)

U-boats off White Sea. D.F. Bearing appears to indicate constant presence of one, and sometimes two, U-boats off entrance to White Sea. A/S patrols are clearly desirable but British Force in area will be fully employed on Minesweeping and local A/S escorts for Convoys. Request Russian Authorities may be urged to take offensive action against this potential menace to our Convoys.
Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles and S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (C. in C. H.F. 1824A/18 to Ad. Miles)

Movements.

NORMAN. Cancel my 0900C 16th.
(NORMAN, 0200Z/18 to A.C.I.C.)
Expect to arrive Archangel 1500C/19.
(NORMAN, 1710B/18)

VERITY, BADSWORTH. Sailed VERITY and BADSWORTH in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 2220/15.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 0615A/18).

PETUNIA. PETUNIA report tugs not met in Tunugdljarrik PETUNIA now at Julianehaab.
(A.C.I.C., 0946/18 to C.C.N.F.)

JAY, MYRLAND, KENNET. My 1758/15. Sailing delayed. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0959/18).

/CHICOUTIMI.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.10.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

CHICOUTIMI. Request CHICOUTIMI be diverted in accordance with my 1435A/17 on recommendation received by telephone from Commodore WESTERN ISLES. (C.C.C.S., 1127A/18)
If convenient request you will comply with C.C.C's 1127A/18 informing F.O.I.C. Greenock. (C. in C. W.A., 1925A/18 to Commodore WESTERN ISLES).

VICTORIOUS, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING. Intend sailing VICTORIOUS escorted by Capt. (D) 19 in LAFOREY and LIGHTNING passing Clyde Boom at 1330A/19. E.T.A. Scapa exercise area 0800A/20. Codeword "Eager". (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1148A/18).

13th M/S Flotilla. My 1253A/16 and 1737A/17. Sailing of 13th M/S F. postponed for further 24 hours. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1223A/18)

4th M/S Flotilla. Admiralty 2053/13. Propose sailing S.O.4th M/S Flotilla in FITZROY, with ELGIN, ROSS, LYDD in -company with CAVA, RONALDSHAY, and CAPE NYMETSKI as Danlayers, collier LAKELAND, and store carrier STAR OF FREEDOM to arrive Skaalefiord daylight 21. (A.C.O.S., 1805A/18)

L.27. To avoid convoy amend route as follows. (C. in C. W.A., 2215A/18 to L.27).

Operations.

Convoy C.W.54 shelled. An enemy coastal battery fired one round at 2220 yesterday Friday in the vicinity of C.W.54. No damage or casualties have been reported. (V.A. Dover, 0743A/18)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. P.R.U. Bergen to Stavanger in operation. -(C. in C. Rosyth, 1147/18)

Bombing operations. Night 17/18. All operations were cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C., 1200/18)

/Mosquito.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Mosquito A/C.

My A.906 dated 19.9.1941. the following Mosquito aircraft are flying. Description. (Air Ministry, 1600/18)

White Sea Convoys Air Protection.

Following received from C. in C. H.F. Begins: LONDON reports at least three enemy A/C detected in vicinity of convoy Q.P. one when off Cape Gorodetski but no attack developed owing to low visibility.
Request possibility of affording air protection to convoys entering and leaving White Sea be urgently examined. A possible landing ground on Chayachi Island is described on page 43 of I.S.T.S. report dated 11th August 1941 on Kola Peninsula and Archangel. 1217A/17. Ends.
Request you will take the necessary action and report. (A.C.N.S.H., 1637A/18 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

A/C in Russia.

All aircraft handed over to Soviet p.m. today. (151 Wing 1802/18 to Air Ministry).

Mining.

Operation H.G.

My 1130/17. Operation H.G. postponed a further 24 hours on account of weather.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0948/18)

Thames Estuary.

4 Magnetic mines detonated by Sweepers on 17/10 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1001/18 and 1030/18)
One magnetic mine detonated at 2155/17. Details. (-Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1035/18)
One S.A. mine detonated at 1927/17 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1701/18)
There was some activity over Estuary during early part of night of 17/18. 2015. Loud explosion (bomb or mine) Northern end of East Barrow Sand.
2017 Mine reported dropped in 51° 34' 54" N., 01° 10' 27" E. Position buoyed.
(S.O. T.L.D.F., 1723/18)

Liverpool.

Your 0924. Port including Q.Z.S. 298 is closed until 0745/19. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1102A/18)

/Explosions.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Comtd.

Explosions off Bloody Foreland.

In view of your 0952/16, it appears possible that the explosions reported in your 2309/17 may have had a deeper significance. No reports of any prematures in these fields have reached me for many months and I consider it most unlikely that any would occur more than a year after the field was laid.
(R.A.M., 1200/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

Convoy F.S.22
MAHSEER
British
(7911 tons)
EMPIRE GHYLL,
(British,
2011 tons)
sunk.

WESTMINSTER reports ship mined in position 165° Gunfleet 3½ miles. MANSFIELD standing by.
(C.in C. Nore, 1508A/18)
EMPIRE GHYLL sunk in about 221° B.7 buoy 4.5 cables. (MANSFIELD, 1830A/18)
Your 1743. EMPIRE GHYLL and one other ship sunk., One of these is approx. 051° 40' 32" N. 001° 18' 50" E. Other wreck is close to this position but has not been located.
(WOLSEY, 1850A/18)
Your 2015 and my 1850. It now appears that MAHSEER and EMPIRE GHYLL were the only 2 ships sunk. (WOLSEY, 2059A/18)
(C. in C. Nore, 2015A and 2323A/18)

Casualties and Defects.

COLLEGIAN.

O.N.S. 27 inform Commodore that COLLEGIAN is returning in tow to Liverpool with defects.
(C. in C. W.A., 0032A/18)

NARVA.

Your 2200A/17. Is NARVA in company.
(C. in C. W.A., 0122A/18)
Your 0122A/18. Lost touch with NARVA night of 14th October. (LADY ELSA, 0200A/18)

MARIE LOUISE MACKAY.

My 2315A/17. Damage to MARIE LOUISE MACKAY cannot be repaired at Londonderry. Intend sailing her escorted by WOOLSTON, STELLA POLARIS, and INDIAN STAR to Belfast P.M. today if weather moderates. (Capt. D. Londonderry, 1157A/18)

/LAURENT....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

LAURENT MEEUS. (British tanker 6429 tons) grounded.

S.O.S. In 53° 55' N., 3° 09' W., Stranded in dangerous position. (LAURENT MEEUS, 1510/18)
S.O.S. Send immediately tugs. Stranded by the stern. (LAURENT MEEUS, Recd. 1637/18)

EMPIRE WATERHEN.

Cancel my 1625A/16. EMPIRE WATERHEN is to be towed to Greenock. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1853A/18)

ASSURANCE grounded.

ASSURANCE aground on Bluick Rock, North Channel, Lough Foyle. Tug FRISKY standing by.
(N.O.I.C., Londonderry, 2320/18)

Shipping & Convoys.

F.S.23.

In view of weather Destroyers for F.S.23 are cancelled. (C. in C. Nore, 0934A/18)
No M.Ls. from Humber joining F.S.23 owing to weather. (F.O. Humber, 1145A/18)

F.N.33.

As gale likelihood of veering request permission to route F.N. No. 33 via A.M. Q.Z.3. 287 and so obtain shelter from land. Anticipate Haisborough could be passed in daylight and E.T.A. Sheringham 2100. F.N. No. 33 is only 6 ships. (VALOROUS 1147A/18)
Your 1147A/18. Not approved. Proceed by normal channels. (C. in C. Nore, 1351A/18 to VALOROUS)
Sailing of P.W. 52 and W.P. 54 is postponed 24 hours on account of weather.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1158/18)

S.L.89.

Request confirmation that S.L.89 will be met by a local escort of destroyers R/V of which will be passed by CLEMATIS.
(WELLINGTON, 1200Z/16)

Convoy.

Unless able to arrive before dark reduce speed to arrive daylight 19th. Shoreham ships to be detached to arrive A.M.19th high water sweepers are proceeding towards Portsmouth.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1243/18 to BLENCATHRA)

/P.Q.3.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

P.Q.3,
C.N.29.

P.Q. 3 will sail from Iceland and will consist of CAPE RACE, WANSTEAD, CAPE CORSO, TREKIEVE, BRIARWOOD, COCLE.
2. Ships from U.K. are to be sailed for Iceland in O.N.29.
3. C. in C. H.F. is requestedto arrange escort from Iceland to Archangel and if possible provide additional escort for O.N.29 with orders to break off with Iceland portion.
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail U.K. ships as necessary to join O.N.29.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1343A/18)

"Cargo"
C.T. 5.
T.C.15.

Convoy "Cargo". 6 ships will be ready to sail 24/10. EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW cannot sail before 30/10 in ballast or 2/11 loaded.
(2) Navy Department wish that escort of "Cargo" shall on return passage form part escort of convoy C.T.5 if M.O.M.P. and dates can be suitably arranged.
(3) Propose therefore that convoy "Cargo" sails 24/10 less EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW.
(4) As maritime commision attaches special importance to safety of ships of this type propose EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW complete loading and proceed to Halifax for (?inclusion) in convoy T.C.15.
(5) Request immediate reply.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1935R/18)

Convoy
F.N.33.
SPEEDFAST.

SPEEDFAST making little headway, position near 55A buoy. Am standing by.
(VERDUN, 2053/18)

Convoy
C.T.5.

Composed of 8 ships will leave U.K. on 30/10. Details. (A.C.N.S. H., 2231A/18) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Call Boy" — See Mediterranean.

SURVILLE (French) — Arrival 17th. (? Porto, 1128/18 to D. of S.T.)

Convoys H.G. report of sailing. — Following is an extract from R.O.P. on H.G.73 rendered by FOWEY (begins). It is for consideration that H.G. convoy should be sailed after dark to prevent their time of departure being accurately reported by enemy agents in Spain. (Ends) Request your remarks. (C. in C. W.A. 1128A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Return of Aircraft in ATHENE. — Air Ministry have asked that the following R.A.F. aircraft should be returned to U.K. in ATHENE (details of 6). Request you will investigate possibility of shipping these aircraft in ARGUS, as well as any other damaged aircraft and components, as it is not desired that ATHENE should call at Gibraltar on her homeward voyage. (D.N.A.D. 1348A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

H.G.75. — A.M.2209/16 and 2022/17 F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail H.G.75 on 21/10 or at earliest date thereafter when at least two destroyers of Force H. can be made available to supplement the escort. F.O. Force H. is requested to arrange for destroyers of Force H. accordingly. Present intention is that they should return to Gibraltar in time for "Chieftain". (A.C.N.S.(T) 1620A/18 to F.O.C.N.A., F.O. Force H.)

RORQUAL. — On completion of operation off Sardinia proceed through position (M) 038° 40' 008° 00' (N) 039° 00' 004° 00' E. (P) 036° 20' 002° 15' W. to Gibraltar. At your discretion report P.C. and S. of A. on crossing 007° E. (F.O.C.N.A. 1610A/18 to RORQUAL.)

AUDACITY. — Consider AUDACITY should operate from Gibraltar during winter months escorting H.G. and O.G. convoys, changing over as requisite. If approved spare Martlets will be required at Gibraltar. Propose embarking eight aircraft and all 802 Sqdn. for passage out with O.G. 76. (AUDACITY 1625A/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Portuguese ...

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

Portuguese Trawlers.

Neutral Master reports belief that following Portuguese Trawlers intend to join the Bayonne Trade: TREVO PRIMEIRO 198 G.T., TREVO SEGUNDO 202 G.T., TREVO TERCEIRO 296 G.T. owned by Sociedade De Pesca Costeira Ltd.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1632A/18 to D.N.I.

Wounded from Gibraltar.

Evacuation of wounded from Gibraltar.
1. Agreed most desirable from point of view of morale of the Garrison that occasional evacuation of casualties should take place when siege conditions arise. 2. The smallest Hospital ship in commission has a capacity for 399 patients. Not considered possible to load this ship fully in a single night from beaches by Motor Landing Craft. 3. Only method which appears practical is to evacuate small numbers by occasional fast ships. This would entail a small R.A.M.C. staff embarking in ship before its departure from U.K. 4. Your views are requested to enable necessary arrangements to be made. (W.O. 1745/18 to Govr. Gibraltar.)

French Shipping.

Gibraltar 1645. French armed trawler L'AJACCIENNE, JAMAIQUE. LILLOIS, PARAME, CARIMARE, all French eastbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1753A/18 to Admty. etc.)

South Atlantic.

GURKHA, ISAAC SWEERS.

Arrival 1700/17, departure 0815/18.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 0931N/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

O.S.8.

S.S. HARTISMERE dropping astern of O.S.8 due to engine trouble a.m./17 and unaware of new route. Weather. Ocean escort can remain in company until a.m./25 and arrive Bathurst noon/26, having 5% useful fuel remaining. Minimum of (24 or 30?) hours in harbour is requested to make good minor (defects?). O.S.(?8) E.T.A. position (C) 1600N/20. Passed through FLEETWOOD. (BLACK SWAN 1001M/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

/Closing ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Closing Down R.Os. Saldanha etc.

F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1416B/24/9/41. Request your views on proposals. Please see S.O.(I) Capetown's 0915B/13 reporting arrival of PANTELIS at Capetown. M. of W/T representative in Capetown reported this vessel on 9th as bunkering at Luderitz Bay and sailing that day. This information was not known apparently by S.O.(I) Capetown.
(D.N.I. 1152A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

Navigation Marks, Gambia.

New positions in your area of dam floats and buoys placed in accordance with Admty. 1404A/7.
(CHALLENGER, 1210N/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

U/Bs Annobon.

Reports that U-Boats may be using Island of Annobon as a centre for rest and recreation if not for refuelling. Some confirmation obtained from prisoners. Request you will consult S.N.O. F.N.F.L. with a view to PRESIDENT HOUDUCE carrying R/C of this island and surrounding waters. (C. in C. S.A. 1355N/18 to B.N.L.O. West Africa.)

English Bank L/V.

New position English Bank Light Vessel is 172° (? 53.2) miles from Isle de Flores Light 35° 06' S. 055° 54' W.
(R.A.S.A.D. 1513Z/18 to BULOLO.)

Docks, South Africa.

Please see H.C. Pretoria's Q 0545 of 15/10 to Dominions Office. Requests are substantially in accordance with my recommendation to Union Govt. Floating dock proposal is long term but not so long as project of constructing graving dock at Capetown, which Union Govt. are not inclined to further unless skilled labour and plant can be provided from external sources. My impression of congestion in Union ports is that situation was gradually deteriorating, but steps being taken locally may arrest deterioration. Proposals in H.C's telegram should lead to improvement and put Union ports in better case to cope with increased volume of shipping which must be expected as forces in Middle East grow.
(C. in C. S.A. 1545N/18 to Admty.)

/Task ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Task Group 3.6.	A.M. 2115/11. Future movements Task Group 3.6. Leave San Juan 20/10 to Trinidad area, thence to Pernambuco 28/10 via positions (J) 10 N. 53 W. and (I) Equator 35 W. (D.O.D.(F) 1621A/18 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)
AQUITANIA.	D.O.S.Ts 1243/18 (N.T.in W.D). This ship cannot be handled at either Capetown or Durban, vide my 0956/16 to C. in C. S.A. only. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1703B/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Convoy.	Position of convoy at 2317/17 036° 32' N. 012° 02' E. Course at 0013/18 160°. (V.A. Malta 0104/18 to 10th S/M Flot.)
Landing Craft.	Your O/98358 dated 1/9. 20 twin screw T.L.Cs have arrived in M.E. of which 13 have been destroyed by enemy action. 15 triple screw T.L.Cs have been shipped of which two have been sunk on passage. A further 25 will be -shipped. Assuming no more are lost, this should give you 45 by Spring 1942. In addition, India has been asked to build 17 T.L.Cs and 22 Z craft, but this is still under investigation, and may not prove possible. Question of sending additional T.L.Cs from U.K. on completion of above programme is under consideration here in light of revised building programme and Home requirements. (W.O. 0700/18 to C. in C. M.E.)
Operation "Callboy"	11 Albacores have arrived. There is no indication of approach of further aircraft. (V.A. Malta 0710A/18 to S.O. Force H.) My 0710. One Swordfish now arrived. Crew missing Albacore Sub. Lt. Davison and Jones, crew missing Swordfish Sub. Lt. Bunyan and Denby. (V.A. Malta, 0937A/18 to S.O. Force H. ARK ROYAL.)

/V.A. Malta's ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Callboy" contd.

V.A. Malta's 0937/18. 11 Albacore and 2 Swordfish took off from 037° 28' N. 006° 00' E. at 0140A. Albacore crew referred to by V.A. Malta safe, aircraft was unserviceable. No reason can be suggested of non-arrival of 1 Swordfish. Weather conditions appeared to be very favourable.
(ii) Fighter shot down 1 Cant shadower at 1408A/17 in 038° 00' N. 003° 20' E. and 1 B.R.20 at 1042A/18 in 037° 05' N. 003° 45' E. Both interceptions very nice work. Enemy air R/C appears to be extensive over Western Mediterranean.
(iii) V.A. Malta's 1857A/17 and 1925A/17 not received until 0625A/18 and 0928A/18 respectively. Reason for delay not known.
(iv) 3 Fulmars arriving North Front 1400A/19 to take distinguished visitor to ARK ROYAL to witness flying practice of R/C aircraft.
(v) This message is also intended as wireless diversion to indicate withdrawal west.
(S.O. Force H. 1557A/18 to Admty.)

Air Report.

Night 16/17 Oct. No bombing operations.
Day 17/10 10 R/C sorties Bardia area, Piraeus, Suda Bay and Eastern Mediterranean no shipping at sea, weather bad all day with heavy cloud and dust storms.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1143/18.)

S/Ms.

Any S/Ms encountered during the nights of 18th to 20th inclusive are not to be attacked.
Local movement summary follows.
(Capt. S. 10. 1205A/18 to P.31, 10th S/M F.)

C. in C. Med. takes over Red Sea.

From 0001Z/21 the Red Sea including Aden will form part of the Mediterranean Station whose Eastern Limit will become Longitude 045° 05' E.
2. The Red Sea Division of the Station will be principally between the above Longitude and Suez but exclusive of the Port of Suez itself.
3. Rear Admiral R.H.C.Hallifax will take the Command of the Red Sea Area of the station on 21/10 with the title of F.O.C. Red Sea (F.O.R.S.) He will normally fly his Flag ashore at Suez. The date of transferring to Suez will be promulgated later.
4. Aden W/T station will remain under the operational control of C. in C. E.I.
5. F.O.C. R.S.F. is authorized to deal direct with Army, R.A.F. and Civil Authorities within the Area of his command on matters other than those of major policy keeping C. in C. Med. informed of actions taken as necessary.

/6 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

C.in C. Med. takes over Red Sea contd.

6. C. in C. E.I. is requested to inform all East Indies and Red Sea Authorities concerned of this reorganization.
All H.M. Ships while within limits of the Red Sea as defined in para.2 and H.M. Ships at Suez will be regarded as belonging to Red Sea Force for communication purposes.
7. The actual Red Sea Force will consist initially of PARRAMATTA, FALMOUTH, SHOREHAM and such forces as C. in C. E.I. details from existing Red Sea Forces.
8. The title N.O.i/c Port Tewfik will be changed on 21/10 to N.O.i/c Suez. N.O.i/c Suez will be in command under S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area of Canal Ports in Bitter Lake and Ataka as well as of Port Tewfik and Port Ibrahim.
9. In absence of F.O.C. Red Sea Force from Suez N.O.i/c Suez will act for him.
10. Changes in Intelligence and communications organization will be promulgated separately.
(C. in C. Med. 1219B/18.)

COETLOGON (French)

Arrival 18th. (Barcelona 1259/18 to D. of S.T.)

Dhows policy.

Governor of Aden's telegram of 5/10 (R) Cairo No.164 and C. in C. E.I. No.4; F.O. telegram to Cairo No.93 Prior, (R) Aden No.522 and C. in C. E.I. No.20. It is considered that the following instructions should be issued -
(a) That, owing to the dubious legality of sinking dhows, they should when possible be captured rather than destroyed; (b) but, if for practical reasons, it is not possible to send in a particular dhow, it should be destroyed, proper provision being made for the safety of the crew. 2. C. in C. Med. pass to Minister of State.
(Head of M. Approved by 1st Lord 1303A/18 to Cs in C. Med., E.I., S.N.O.R.S.)

M.T.Bs.

R.A.(D) Med. is co-ordinating the arrangements for M.T.B. bases in Eastern Med. except at Malta and will administer M.T.Bs when they arrive. (?Accounts) of all M.T.B.personnel will be carried in H.M.S. NILE. Request correspondence and signals may be addressed accordingly. (C. in C. Med. 1404B/18 to Adty.)

/S/Ms ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

S/Ms. Positions (G) (H) and (J) established. Local S/M Movements summary. (Capt. S.10, 1551A/18 to P.31, 10th S/M Flot.) See Lion Copy.

U-Boats. U-Boat sighted close north of Amorgo Island 0800B/18. Further sighting suggested U-Boat patrolling line from Levitha to Scarpanto. (Capt. S.1. 1551B/18 to THUNDERBOLT, TRIUMPH.)

THUNDERBOLT TRIUMPH. Proceed Malta through following position (a) 036° 00' 023° 10' and (b) 035° 54' 016° 00' thence as ordered by Capt.(S) 10. Leave your patrol 21st in time to pass through position (a) shortly before diving a.m./22. TRIUMPH is to remain northward of 38° until 0001/22. Enemy are reported to be using barges towed by tug transporting petrol from Salonika to Piraeus. (Capt. S.1. 1621B/18 to THUNDERBOLT.)

Malta Raid. Night 17/18 0302 hours 7 raiders approached. None crossed coast. All bombs in sea, Hurricanes up, no illuminations or interceptions. (H.Q. Malta 2023/18.)

885 Sqdn. (Fulmars) R.A.(A) Med's 1606/10/9 Fulmar flight has been increased to a squadron of 12 I E and it is intended that it should be known as 885 Sqdn. This number was originally allocated to Gladiator flight in EAGLE which has now been disbanded. Request confirmation that this number has not been already allocated to another Squadron. (C. in C. Med. 2104B/18 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

SNAPDRAGON. Departure for Aden 17/10. (N.O.I.C. Basra, 06 50Z/18 to S.N.O.R.S.)

SOLI, water tanker, Red Sea. Your 2252/8. Norwegian Tanker SOLI has been examined at Colombo. She is unsuitable for a water carrier. Request another tanker be allocated as soon as possible for Red Sea. (C. in C. E.I. 0744Z/18 to D. of S.T.)

R/C Aircraft. The present lack of long range R/C A/C on E.I. Station is serious. The two Catalina now available Colombo are unable to meet my present requirements and will be totally inadequate in the event of a Far Eastern war.
(ii) Request urgent consideration be given this matter and that immediate steps be taken to implement programme outlined in A.M. 2148/24/1.
(iii) I appreciate that Army H.G. Far East are unable to assist me at present in view of their own commitments and lack of trained crews.
(C. in C. E.I., 1144Z/18 to Admty.)

HERMES. My 0716/13.
(i) Before HERMES commences this refit I propose to order her back to Colombo to disembark her 12 Swordfish with crews.
(ii) This torpedo bomber R/C squadron would be (2 corrupt groups) (?addition to) air defence of Ceylon in absence of G.R. land plane squadron referred to in 2148/24/1.
(iii) After HERMES has completed her refit I further suggest she should embark as many dismantled Swordfish Walrus and spare engines from WYNBERG as possible and that these should be landed China Bay to form part of aircraft reserve mentioned in A.M. 1352/18/9. HERMES could then reembark her original 12 Swordfish and crew on arrival back at Colombo unless it has been found possible to replace these crews before leaving. In latter event I could then retain a torpedo striking force at Colombo.
(C. in C.E.I. 1206Z/18 to Adty.)

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies-Contd.

Operation "Ration". Your 0106/8. Operation "Ration" was stopped at dusk yesterday 17/10. No interception.
(ii) CORNWALL and ENTERPRISE patrolled between Saya de Malha and Nazareth Banks from dawn/12 until dark/15 when ENTERPRISE was detached to refuel at Mauritius. CORNWALL remained on patrol sweeping further eastward.
(iii) Catalina flying boat carried out demonstration flight in vicinity of Reunion on 12 and 13/10
(iv) ENTERPRISE continued (?patrol between) Mauritius and Cargados Carajos on 17th. Catalina searches South of Mauritius and between Mauritius and Cargados Carajos were carried out on 16 and 17/10. (C. in C. E.I.12202/18 to Admty.)

AUSTRALIA
CORNWALL.
U.S.13. AUSTRALIA has been diverted to Colombo for mining referred to in your 1739/17.
(2) A.C.N.B. have now requested East Indies cruiser escort for U.S.13 from Fremantle, due presumably to CANBERRA's projected refit. A.C.N.B's 0744/19/5 refers. (3) Alternatives are AUSTRALIA or CORNWALL. (4) Use of CORNWALL would mean 2 8-inch cruisers being detached on distant service simultaneously to which I am reluctant at present time.
(5) It appears therefore that Kerguelen cruise must once again be cancelled and AUSTRALIA do escort unless A.C.N.B. are able to provide escort part of way from Fremantle. (C. in C. E.I. 1330/18 to Admty.)

KANIMBLA. Your 1216/16. Subject to your concurrence intend KANIMBLA to leave Colombo on relief by MANOORA about 6/12. KANIMBLA would then arrive Fremantle about 15/12. (C. in C. E.I. 1452Z/18 to A.C.N.B).

DALHOUSIE. Have you any news of DALHOUSIE due Calcutta 8/10 from Capetown?
(?D.T. D., 1626A/18 to S.O.I. Colombo).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

ZUIKAKU.

Japanese aircraft carrier ZUIKAKU is in vicinity of Bako. (C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0458Z/18 to Admty.). N.I.D. Comment. ZUIKAKU is Japan's latest A/C Carrier and is shown in C.B. 1815 as completing. She was launched in November '39 and this is the first report that has been received indicating she is at sea. Probably at Bako, in Pescadores, either doing trials or on "working up" cruise. Believed to be about 16000 tons and may carry about 50 aircraft.

Allied Shipping.

My 0313/6. Add New Paragraph:
(f) If stopped at sea by Japanese warship after signal "seek refuge port" has been made, C.Bs. are to be destroyed and immediate W/T message sent in P/L giving cumulative details as time permits. If and when released further report to be made. (C. in C. China, 0529Z/18 to F.O.C. Singapore, etc.)

Raiders.

Your 0304Z/17. ANTILLA seized by Dutch and ARAUCA by Americans so neither can be Raider B. Suggest possible identity of B might be NORDDEUTSCHER EMS. (D.D.I.C. 1204A/18 to C.O.I.S. Singapore).

Japanese Threat to Hong Kong.

My 1099 of 17/10. 1. Same source reports 700 artillery men, 12 mechanised Field Guns, and 200 horses landed Bocca Tigris on 16th and further reinforcements expected. 2. S.I.S. sources confirm previous reports that Japanese are garrisoning villages along Bocca Tigris-Namtau highway and repairing bridges. 3. Estimate total of Japanese troops in East river and Hong Kong border districts about 20,000 of whom over half would be available at short notice in event of attack on colony.
(G.O.C. Hong Kong, 1615/18 to W.O.)
Comment:- Previous information regarding preparations in East River District, in G.O.C. Hong Kong's 1735/10 circulated 13/10.
Bocca Tigris-Namtau highway is the coast road leading from the entrance to the Canton River to the Hong Kong border.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/B's in Mexico Gulf. S.O.(I) Jamaica 1738/14. Following now received from P.C.O. New York "Informed through same source 2 more submarines U.172 and U.263 in Gulf Mexico off Yucatan". (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0410Z/18 to C. in C. A.W.I.) (S.O.I. Kingston 0826R/18 to Admty.)

SHEHERAZADE (French). Master (U.S.) ALCOA cutter at Barbados from Martinique reports probability SHEHERAZADE proceeding shortly dry dock U.S. Gulf Port. A.1. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1028R/18 to Admty. etc.)

POLYPHEMUS. Dut. POLYPHEMUS due Balboa 14/10 from Auckland not arrived. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1034R/18 to Admty. etc.)

NORSELAND. Admty. 1758A/15 to S.O.I. Jamaica only. Cancel my 1248R/5. Colon reports vessel arrived 14/10, now under repair. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1038R/18 to Admty. etc.)

Shipping calls at Batavia. In view of time taken on passage by ships proceeding from Balboa and West Coast America ports to Singapore suggest that these ships which do not call at a N.C.S. Port en route should be ordered to call at Batavia for latest information before proceeding to Singapore. Request your remarks. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1112Q/18 to C. in C. China).

FORMIDABLE. Re Admty. 0032A/4/10, type of R.D./F. (B.A.R.M. 1212R/18 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

CIRCASSIA. VAN KINSBERGEN. D.S. VAN KINSBERGEN leave Curacao 25/10 and proceed to Trinidad so as to arrive 27/10 and top up with fuel. CIRCASSIA and VAN KINSBERGEN Leave Trinidad 28/10 and patrol in company in Northern half of Square G.32. Object interception enemy raider and supply ships. Leaving patrol 5/11, CIRCASSIA proceeding to Trinidad to refuel and thence Bermuda, VAN KINSBERGEN to Curacao to refit. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1212Q/18 to CIRCASSIA, D.S. VAN KINSBERGEN).

PRINCE HENRY. Following is future programme for PRINCE HENRY. Trinidad 22-24/10 Fuel; Bermuda 28-30/10 (? Gunnery) Practice on arrival; Halifax 1/11 Installing R.D.F. N.O.I.C. Trinidad is requested to sail PRINCE HENRY in due course to comply. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1222Q/18 to PRINCE HENRY).

/L.27.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

L.27. Capt. (S) 2's 1501A/13. Report time of arrival (b) 048° 00' N. 046° 00' W. as soon as accurate forecast possible. Unless otherwise ordered proceed direct from (B) to St. Johns N.F. Escort will not be provided but T.B.R. will be arranged 30 miles either side of your course. (C.C.N.F. 1228Z/18 to S/M L.27).

SURCOUF. Request whether it is intended that SURCOUF should continue to operate under my command on completion of refit or whether she will proceed to Pacific vide A.C.F.N.F.L. No. 1280 of 23/7 to SURCOUF. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1232Q/18 to Admty.)

N.E.F. (1) My 1544Z/13 (N.T. in W.R) Urgently request confirmation that ships are being sailed as requested. (2) Request also what ships of N.E.F. were sailed from Q for O.N.S. 25. (C.C.N.F. 1251Z/18 to S.O. present Afloat, Iceland).

Casablanca Intelligence. Meter, Casablanca 16/10 A.1.
Arrived 9/10 Spanish ships: CHRISTINE cleared for Bilbao 15/10 with 3600 tons phosphates; BRIQUETTAS, ZORROZA, from Canary Islands cleared for Huelva 13/10 with 2000 tons of phosphates; DIOCHU from Cartagena cleared for Bilbao 14/10 with 1430 tons of phosphates.
Arrived 10/10 French ships; ARIZONA with coal, pharmaceuticals and 13 military cars, she has not yet finished loading for Dakar; STRABON from -Marseilles with 1100 tons of torpedo net wire, 22 military trucks and trailers, 311 tons 1932 model 8 millimetres ammunition. Arrived 12/10. Portuguese SILVA GOUVEIA in ballast from Lisbon. Arrived 11/10. French CARIMARE from Marseilles with cement, champagne and cord. (B.A.D. 1329R/18 to S.O.I. Freetown etc.)

NASTURTIUM. Charleston returned NASTURTIUM, minor boiler trouble. May possibly sail 20th. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1513Z/18 to Admty. etc.)
My 1302R/14. NASTURTIUM has returned to Harbour with a broken fan shaft and will not be ready to sail until about 23/10.
(B.A.R.M. 1544R/18 to C.C.N.F., etc.)

BURNHAM.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

BURNHAM. My 1242R/30. BURNHAM will leave Newport, Rhode Island, p.m./28. Intend to sail her for Halifax with passengers. (B.A.R.M. 1518R/18 to Admty.)

PORT DARWIN on fire. Following has been read. 1715G.M.T. S.O.S. PORT DARWIN on fire 47° 34' N. 39° 53' W. bearing 71 R 75°. (Halifax W/T, 17452/18).
Following received from Lands End Radio. Intercept 1721 G.M.T. De Valentia Radio S.O.S. PORT DARWIN on fire in 47.41 N. 39.59 W. 1718/18. (Plymouth 1821/18 to Admty.)
Note different position.
PORT DARWIN to WINAMAC. Fire has spread to magazine and just had some explosions. (Valentia Radio 1740/18) PORT DARWIN to BCNJ. Cancel you GTAC coming. (Signal letters not known) (Valentia Radio, 1750/18).
PORT DARWIN on fire. Am proceeding to her assistance. Am 22 hours from her position. Please advise. (GALT, 18442/18 to C.C.N.F).

DIDO. Your 1732A/10. DIDO will be ready to sail for Bermuda p.m.1/11.
(B.A.R.M. 1850A/18 to Admty.)

Suspect Spanish Ships. Ref. S.W.I. 833/627 of 10/9 intercepted letter from Lisbon to New York Branch, American Joint Distribution Committee, indicated that Spanish ISLA DE TENERIFFE due to sail on 20/10 from Barcelona for Cuba is being used for same purpose and on same lines as Spanish NAVEMAR, entire affair believed to be German controlled.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 22120/18 to Admty.)

SHERBROOKE. CHICOUTIMI. C.C.C.S. 1435A/17. 1. If no objection intend in future sailing Corvettes to Greenock for fuel and night leave before proceeding Tobermory. 2. CCC.S. 1127A/18. Request SHERBROOKE believed in company with CHICOUTIMI be similarly dealt with. (C.C.N.F., 2341Z/18 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.10.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.48 (attacked 17/10)

Patrol planes report no unusual activity vicinity S.C.48. Escorts were ten surface and two British air.
(Opnav, 0115/18 to Admty.)

BROADWATER (escorting S.C.48.)

H.M.S. BROADWATER torpedoed, still floating, send tugs 057° 01' N. 019° 08' W.
(HIGHLANDER, 0400Z/18 to Admty. C. in C. W.A.)
BROADWATER, ex U.S. destroyer MASON. Proceed Meville, when joined by WELLARD from Londonderry proceed in company to assist BROADWATER torpedoed and floating in 57-01 N. 19-08 W.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0653A/18 to FRISKY, ASSURANCE.)
My 1124Z/17. Following signals received.
(D.T.D. 1008Z/18 to Opnav.) See Lion Copy.
Your 0400A/18. Who is standing by BROADWATER? Trawlers or corvettes should be used for this if available, and not destroyers.
(C. in C. W.A. 1011A/18 to HIGHLANDER.)
ANGLE and CAPE WARWICK standing by BROADWATER. In amended position 057° 01' N., 018° 42' W.
ANGLE reports chances of towing slight. One officer and 12 men remaining on board. 83 survivors, 4 anticipated casualties including Captain. P.C. and S. of convoy 056° 57' N. 016° 16' W. 096° 7½ knots.
VERONICA reports promising attack on U.boat in 057° 01' N., 022° 10' W., at (?15) 21Z/17. As she only has 12 charges left and 30 survivors on board I ordered her to Londonderry, before joining H.X.154.

ERVIKEN.

ABELIA reports 5 survivors from ERVIKEN on board. Now proceeding to join H.X.154. No other attacks on convoy during the night. Escorts in company, BULLDOG, AMAZON, RICHMOND, GEORGETOWN, HEARTSEASE. Have been unable to get into touch with GLADIOLUS. One unknown straggler was 7 miles astern of convoy yesterday now out of sight. Weather report. (HIGHLANDER, 1130Z/18 to Admty. C. in C. W.A.)
CAPE WARWICK reports BROADWATER's back broken. CAPE WARWICK and ANGLE proceeding to Londonderry. ST. APOLLO who has arrived since my 1130Z/18 standing by. One casualty in CAPE WARWICK died. CASTALIA reported to be 16 miles astern of convoy.
(HIGHLANDER 1306Z/18 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)
BROADWATER sank 1341Z/18. (ST. APOLLO, 1343Z/18 to Admty.)

/RYM ....

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

RYM.(S.C.48.) (torpedoed 17/10.)

Your 1114Z/17. Is any escort vessel standing by RYM?
(C. in C.W.A., 0546A/18, to VERONICA.)
Your 0546. BADDECK arrived as I left and I told him ship was abandoned. I had crew and was proceeding to rejoin. Weather report.
(VERONICA, 0631Z/18, to C. in C.W.A.)

BOLD VENTURE reported torpedoed 17/10.)

S.C.48. Did BOLD VENTURE sail in this convoy?
(D.T.D. 1106A/18 to N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B.)
Your 1106A/18. Yes.
(N.O.I.C. Sydney, 1538Z/18.)
Sailed ROXBOROUGH, WELLARD, FRISKY and ASSURANCE.
N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1358A/18.)
Position of BROADWATER at 1129 today 57°01'N., 18°42' W., ANGEL and CAPE WARWICK, standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1607A/18 to FRISKY, ASSURANCE.
FRISKY, ASSURANCE and WELLARD are to return to Lough Foyle and remain at short notice on arrival ROXBOROUGH is to proceed to Iceland.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1709A/18 to ships named.)

ARGUN.

Russian steamer ARGUN is reported as torpedoed today in approx., 090° Gorodetski 5 miles.
Admty., pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1800C/18 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0024 G.M.T.

Following intercept by Humber Radio at 0024 G.M.T. on 500 kc/s strength 3 (begins) - D.C.41 D.R. Submarine steering N.E. crossed stern 0020(ends.)
(F.O. Humber, 0139A/18, to Admty., C.in C.Nore.)
Also received from Land's End. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1005/18 to Admty.)

0800B.

Capt. S.1, 1551B/18.(See Mediterranean.)

Submarine estimate 18/10.
(U.S.C.N.O., 2350Z/18.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CARNATION.

CARNATION attacked S/m 35.48N.,6.56W.,Lost contact. (ROCHESTER, 0330A/18,to F.O.C.N.A.)My 0330 have swept 7 miles east of position. Resuming westerly course. ROCHESTER,0500A/18,to F.O.C.N.A.)

By VERONICA.

At 1521Z/17. (HIGHLANDER, 1130Z/18.)
See ships attacked.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

SUFFOLK, IMPULSIVE and ESCAPADE sailed from Archangel today to carry out an operation in Svaerholthavet on the night 21/22 October, then to U.K.

Visit to Spitzbergen.

HARRIER, BRITOMART, SALAMANDER and HALCYON on their way home from Archangel visited Spitzbergen p.m./today and found that a German airborne meteorological party had arrived at Longyearby. Captured orders indicate that their object was to establish a W/T Station. Work bad not started, however. The Germans, who apparently arrived today, escaped by aircraft, but some of their equipment was seized.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night on account of bad weather.

In view of the present naval strategic situation it is most important that every effort be made to continue the immobilization of the enemy heavy ships in Brest.

Mining.

Several mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary.

MOST SECRET.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Callboy". — Force H.(RODNEY, ARK ROYAL and HERMIONE) escorted by 7 destroyers returned to Gibraltar this evening.

South Atlantic.

As there does not now appear to be any U-Boat activity off South America south of the Equator C. in C. S.A. wishes to recall LAVENDER and BERGAMOT and use them or their equivalent to form part of a hunting group to search St. Pauls Rocks area, where there are indications of U-Boat supply ships.

Mediterranean.

AURORA and PENELOPE left Gibraltar a.m. today for Malta and to join the Mediterranean Fleet, accompanied by LANCE and LIVELY.

Malta. — A few bombs were dropped on Malta last night. No naval damage is reported.

Directorate of Opposed Landings. — The formation of a Directorate of Opposed Landings is approved.

Libya and Western Desert. — 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

INVERLEE sunk.

British Tanker INVERLEE escorted by LADY HOGARTH and STELLA CARINA was torpedoed and sunk at 0200 today about 15 miles west of Cape Spartel. F.O.C.N.A. reports that the use of territorial waters by independently routed ships is limited by French reaction to any ship within 20 miles of their coast, and it also is extremely probable that Territorial waters are used by U-boats when charging batteries, who would not hesitate to attack.

BARON KELVIN sunk.

S.S. BARON KELVIN on passage from Lisbon to Gibraltar was torpedoed and sunk near Cape Trafalgar about 0900 today.

U.S.S. LEHIGH sunk.

American ship LEHIGH is reported to have been torpedoed without warning at 0900 today in 8° 26' N. 14° 37' W. She was in ballast from Arica to Takoradi for ore. Some men were wounded; the whole crew was picked up.

Caribbean.

With reference to the recent reports of U-boats in the Caribbean the Adty. state that at present there is no evidence of any U-boats.

MOST SECRET.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

R.N.O. Aberystwyth. — A.L. M/L.D. 02795/41 of 10/10. If you concur it is proposed to terminate the post of R.N.O. Aberystwyth.
Terminating date proposed is 1/11.
(D. of L.D. 1917/19 to C. in C.W.A.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Communications — Your 1247/18. Concur. (C. in C. H.F.0009A/19 to Admty.)
Your 1248A/18. Arrangements can not be made at present. It is hoped to obtain additional high frequency receivers from 151 Wing R.A.F. which will enable G.A. routine to be read. Further signals will be made when this set is installed.
(2) It is assumed that G.A. routines are as laid down in A.F.O. S.1/41 Part 3 Table 2 Line 10.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 15190/19 to Adty.)
Archangel communication situation is as follows. Details. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 13010/19 to Ad. Miles) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

O.14.
MINERVE. — O.14 and MINERVE left Lerwick proceeding in accordance with S nine 1825/14 and 1321A/16. (A.C.O.S. 0803/18).
O.14 and MINERVE escorted by LOCH MONTEITH left Lerwick for 061° 30' N. 000°, then parting company and proceeding unescorted to Patrol areas. (A.C.O.S. 0805A/19).

LAFOREY.
LIGHTNING.
MALAYA. — When relieved by BEDOUIN and PUNJABI, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING proceed to R/V with MALAYA off Hoxa and provide escort to Clyde. It is anticipated MALAYA will pass Hoxa about 0900/20. (R.A.D.H.F. 1042A/19).

MURAT REIS.
H.31. — (1) Intend to sail MURAT REIS escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1800A/22 routed North Isle of Man for Barrow. E.T.A. Lightning Knoll Buoy 1200A/23.
(2) Thence LA CAPRICIEUSE to R/V with H.31 at 0730A/25 in 180° Lizard Head 5 miles and escort her to Rothesay. E.T.A. 0700A/27.
(4) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation. (Capt. S.3. 1131A/19).

/PETUNIA.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

PETUNIA. If PETUNIA is delayed at Julianehaab request that arrangements may be made to fuel from American Oiler believed due Tunugdliarrig about 23/10. Copy of this signal has been passed in Anglo American Cypher to Senior U.S. Naval Officer IVIGTUT repeated U.S. ship NORTH STAR now at Tunugdliarrig. (PETUNIA 1037Z/19 to A.C.I.C.)
A.C.I.C. 0946/18. Request PETUNIA may be ordered to proceed to Iceland unless tugs are expected at Julianehaab shortly.
(C. in C. W.A. 1237A/19 to C.C.N.F.)

SUFFOLK.
NORMAN. For operation and U.K. at 1600C/19 sailed SUFFOLK, IMPULSIVE, ESCAPADE without T.U.C. delegates of whom no further news. (? E.T.A.) Scapa P.M./25. NORMAN arrived. 1430C. (SUFFOLK 1301Z/19). (NORMAN 1500C/19).

VICTORIOUS.
LAFOREY.
LIGHTNING. My 1148A/18/10 sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1348A/19).

MALINES. My position is observed as 50° 20' N. 20° 46' W. Have done utmost unsuccessfully to R/V with O.S.9. Fuel capacity critical. Proceeding direct at economical speed 9 knots. If adverse weather continues, outlook poor. (MALINES 1400A/19).

4th M/S Flotilla. Your 1805/18. Concur. I attach great importance to operations of this force not being reported by enemy aircraft. (C. in C. H. F. 1409A/19 to A.C.O.S.)
Request ships of 4th M.S.F. may be sailed direct to Thorshavn Faroes to join British Ports as they become available and not to Scapa.
(A.C.O.S. 2318A/19 to N.O.I.C. Humber).

TIGRIS. TIGRIS sails from Polyarno 0930C/20 routed as follows to R/V with BREDA at 0800A/26 in 61° N. 3° 30' W. for onward escort Holy Loch. Estimate TIGRIS will be west of 25° E. by 0001/22 and she has been warned of your operation.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1431C/19 to SUFFOLK).

/CURACOA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

CURACOA. — 2 A/P Trawlers are patrolling astern of you up to 32 Buoy tonight.
Expect 2 (joining ?) from abeam. (?Aberdeen).
(C. in C. Rosyth 1949/19 to CURACOA).

VERITY.
BEVERLEY.
BADSWORTH.
(INDOMITABLE) — VERITY, BEVERLEY, BADSWORTH remain with INDOMITABLE -to prudent limit of endurance. Cancel R/V with MENESTHEUS. (C. in C. W.A. 1955A/19 to INDOMITABLE).

Operations.

Soviet S/M D.3. Patrol Report. 1 Tanker and 3 M.V's claimed sunk. — Soviet S/M D.3 arrived 17/10 from patrol off Tana Fjord with claim to have sunk 4 ships as follows:-
(a) 26/9, unescorted eastbound vessel 1,500 to 2,000 tons. One hit. 3 torpedoes fired.
(b) 27/9, unescorted 1,500 tons tanker westbound. One hit. Two torpedoes fired.
(c) 30/9, unescorted (? small) vessel 2,000 tons. One hit. 3 torpedoes fired.
(d) 1430/11 in 70° 47' N. 29° 47' E. fired one torpedo at one vessel eastbound estimated 6,000 tons escort one destroyer or large trawler. No evidence to establish claim to have sunk.
Escorted convoys sighted eastbound 1512/30/9 and 1330/14 and heavily escorted passenger liner westbound 1200/1.
(Two) D.3 is 1st Soviet submarine to have used British salvo firing and time interval methods.
(Three) Consider vessel attacked in (d) may be remainder of convoy attacked by TIGRIS at 0800/11/10, vide my 1041C/16. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1041C/19).

Spitzbergen. — Your 1342A/14. Germans had occupied Longyearby, and have now retired to aerodrome. Have captured some equipment.
Am endeavouring to prevent escape of Germans by air without much success.
Am remaining until dark when I must leave owing to insufficient fuel. (HARRIER 1545B/19 to C. in C. H.F.)
My 1545B/19. All Germans now appear to have escaped by plane. Am proceeding Seidis Fiord with BRITOMART. Germans apparently arrived today. From captured orders object was to establish W/T station. Work had not started. No trace of occupation at Barentsburg. (HARRIER 1725B/19)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

PRU of Bergen - Horten - Stavanger and "Stab" in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1145/19).
"Hornli" in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1331/19)

Brest.

X.587. 19/10. Confirming telephone conversation today S.A.S.O. and D.C.A.S. In view of present Naval strategic situation it is most important that every effort be made to continue the immobilization of enemy heavy ships in Brest. Request you take advantage of all suitable weather to attack these ships. Considered that surprise concentrated night attacks by say twelve heavy aircraft employing large number of flares in conditions of clear visibility even in non-moon periods might overcome difficulties of smoke screening experienced. (Air Ministry 1200/19 to Bomber Command).

Bombing operations.

Day 18th Oct. and night 18/19. No operations took place owing to unsuitable weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1300/19).

Faroes.

Numerous reports of unidentified aircraft have been received from Coast Watchers today. Reports indicate some friendly and some enemy aircraft. No hostile act reported.
In order to minimize interference with sailing ships and with work being carried out request I may be informed when our own aircraft patrols are in the vicinity.
Admiralty 1907/16 and 1805/19 from A.C.O.S. indicate probable concentration of shipping in Faroes on 21/10. Request fighter protection accordingly. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 2230A/19 to A.C.O.S.)

Mining.

Operation H.G.

My 0948/18. Operation H.G. postponed a further 24 hours on account of weather. (C. in C. Plymouth 1026/19).

Harwich.

At 1225/19 one Green Mine detonated by Sweeper. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1756A/19)

Sweep off Portland.

Intend to sail M/S Trawlers HOY and MULL in accordance with your 1520A/19, leaving Portland at 0800/20.
Sweepers will carry out search of channels east of VZ 3294 and R/V with P.W. 53 at 1330/20 at No. 1 Buoy, afterwards sweeping ahead of convoy and returning to Portland before dark.

/Request.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Sweep off Portland - Contd.

Request fighter protection be arranged to R/V position and after leaving convoy. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1917A/19 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Spurn Point.

Following four mines detonated today by Sweepers. Details. (F.O. Humber 1957A/19).

Enemy Intelligence.

U-boats.

U-boats on passage may cross your track in either direction. (D.D.I.C. 1055A/19 to L.27).

Casualties and Defects.

ASSURANCE (Grounded 18/10).

My 2320/18. Considered ship is not salvable. FRISKY is standing by. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0120A/19, 1826A/19).
My 0120A/19. ASSURANCE apparently badly holed and half flooded 2 hours after low water lying on her side on rock ledge. C.B.S. and other valuable equipment removed to FRISKY. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0435A/19).

SUFFOLK.

Will require cleaning 4 boilers on return to Scapa. (SUFFOLK 1303Z/19).

PALOMARES.

PALOMARES was in collision yesterday with S.S. SILVER COAST in Victoria Channel. Temporary repairs in hand will be completed p.m./22nd. Ship will then be seaworthy, but without port anchor. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1701A/19).

EMPIRE GROVE.

EMPIRE GROVE Ex. P.W. 51 ashore near Long Peak 3 miles South Hartland Point. Crew safe. (C. in C. Plymouth 1714/19).

TAMWORTH.

Beached in 241° 7 cables from Garrison Point after collision with S.S. TARON. Inspection at 1700 today shows extensive damage. Details. Propose to embark 6 inch motor pump at 0700 tomorrow in attempt to refloat in midday high water and berth at Rochester to discharge cargo. (A.S.O. Sheerness 1825/19).

/PUNJABI.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10;1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

PUNJABI. My 1600A/18/9. Request detailed instructions of work required in destroyers for service in the Arctic my be forwarded to A.S. Rosyth so that work can be completed in PUNJABI during forthcoming refit. (R.A.D. 1903A/19 to Admty.)

Shipping and Convoys.

S.L.89. Your 2007Z/18. No local escort available. (C. in C. W.A, 0946A/19 to Escorts S.L.89).

DURBAN CASTLE. VANQUISHER. My 1052A/18. Sailed 1026 unescorted. E.T.A. Clyde 0200A/20. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1120A/19).

SCOTTISH AMERICAN. Your 1752Z/9 and my 0006/14. Oiler SCOTTISH AMERICAN escorted by ELM and WINDERMERE arrive Seidis Fiord A.M. 21st. (A.C.I.C. 1153/19 to C. in C. H.F.).

C.T.5. EMPIRE CONDOR. EMPIRE CURLEW. Your 1935R/18. C.T.5 loading arrangements necessitate sailing date should remain 30/10 and R/V at M.O.M.P. 2/11.
2. In order to utilise same U.S. escort, first 6 ships of "cargo" should be sailed to conform to this arrangement by route already suggested.
3. Route and M.O.M.P, for C.T.5 will be suggested
4. EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW should be sailed to Halifax, loaded to arrive in time to sail for U.K: with destroyer escort not later than 4/11.
5. Please confirm that these arrangements are suitable. (A.C.N.S. H. 1248A/19 to B.A.D. Washington).

W.P.M.53. No M/V's sailed owing to weather. Escorts as in my 1128A/18 have sailed to R/V. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1304A/19).

P.Q.3. A.M. 1343/18 para. 1. Add S.S. SAN AMBROSIO. (D.O.D.M. 1523A/19).

Ships for St. Lawrence. All ships sailing for Gulf of St. Lawrence after 31/10 should be routed to Sydney (CB) for orders. (D.T.D. 1725A/19).

/F.S. 23.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

F.S. 23. QUAYSIDE not arrived. (N.C.S.O. Harwich 1740/19).

Q.P.2. Intend sailing Q.P.2 on first or second November. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 18000/19).

F.S. No. 524. Is not to arrive Sunk Buoy before 0900/20 and is to remain astern of sweepers. Great care is to be taken to avoid wrecks between B.5. and B.7 Buoy. (C. in C. Nore 2133A/19 to WINCHESTER).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

AURORA, PENELOPE. — Arrivals after dark 18/10 AURORA, PENELOPE. Dept. A.M./19 AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE, LIVELY. (F.O.C.N.A., 0658A/19 to Admty).

BESSEL German. — Arrived Vigo 1400/19. (Consul, Vigo, 1427/19 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar) BESSEL left Ferrol 19/10 for Vigo. (Guyatt Coruna, 2345/19 to D.N.I.)

MARON. — Assume N.Z.5 and N.Z.6 patrol. (F.O.C.N.A., 1804A/19 to MARON)

LAMERTON. — Your 1441/(N.T. in W.D.) Assume Force N. continue remain N., of 036° N., tonight and E. Cape Trafalgar. Request information whether X and L patrols are being manned. Intend sweeping out Cabezos Passage occasionally after dark. (LAMERTON, 1817A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation "Call Boy". — Arrival RODNEY, ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE, COSSACK, SIKH, ZULU, FORESTER, FORESIGHT, FURY, LEGION. (F.O.C.N.A. 1840A/19 to Admty).

Sailing of H.G. Convoys after dark. — Your 1128/18.
A. On account of volume of other traffic in the Straits consider it undesirable convoys form up at night.
B. Close proximity of commerical anchorage to Spanish territory where it is known that there are enemy agents precludes sailings of convoys from being kept secret whether they sail by day or by night.
C. Varying times of sailing during daytime may in some measure affect enemy intelligence, but in view of B. this is not considered important. (F.O.C.N.A., 1924A/19 to C. in C. W.A.)

0.24. — P.C. and S. at 2000A/19 040° 32' 002° 39' E., 231° 14 knots. Good lose. Very little shipping sighted. One unsuccessful attack report blank. E.T.A., 0800A/21. (0.24., 2015A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

FREESIA, VERBENA. — For British Consul, Ponta Delgada. Corvettes FREESIA and VERBENA expect to arrive Ponta Delgada 3/11 and will each require approx. 140 tons of oil fuel. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 2148A/19 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Force Q., PRINCE BAUDOUIN.	My 1307/16. Delete PRINCE BAUDOUIN. (C. in C. S.A., 0840N/19 to QUEEN EMMA)
DRAGON, TEVIOT BANK.	My 1957/16. (1943Z/16 intended) DRAGON will ?(not) be ready to leave Simonstown before Tuesday 21/10 at earliest. Request instructions whether TEVIOT BANK is to remain at Durban to await DRAGON or proceed to Mauritius independently. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0953Z/19 to C. in C. E.I.)
AZALEA, SPIREA.	AZALEA and SPIREA are to proceed 1509/19 through position (a) 014° 45' N., 019° 10' W. (b) 022° 30' N., 017° 55' W., (c) 030° 38' N., 011° 15' W. (d) 033° 50' N., 009° 20' W., thence to 61B, S. of A., 11 knots, E.T.A. Gibraltar A.M./26. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1245N/19 to AZALEA, SPIREA.)
WOODRUFF, enemy aliens, from DOMINE.	Corvette WOODRUFF E.T.A. Takoradi 22/10 with following Enemy Aliens on board. Request WOODRUFF be? met on arrival and further request that circumstances of these seizures may be investigated and facts reported to me in due course. (C. in C. S.A., 1249N/19 to Govr. Gold Coast.)
Corvettes to be recalled from S.A.D.	As there does not now appear to by any U-boat activity off South America South of the Equator it is desired to recall LAVENDER and BERGAMOT and use them or their equivalent to form part of a hunting group to search St. Pauls Rocks area where there are indications of U-boat supply ships. (C. in C. S.A., 1321N/19 to Admty) Reply: 1955/20.
DOMINE.	C. in C. S.A. 1507/16. If enemy nationals in Spanish DOMINE do not come within categories mentioned their baggage and that of the 2 French passengers should be examined for despatch or illegal mail, ref.my 1924/3, and the 2 Frenchmen are not to be removed. (D.E.W.D., 2055A/19 to H.M. Ships etc).

/ANTWERP.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ANTWERP, MALINES, BRIGAND.

Request you will route ANTWERP, MALINES and tug BRIGAND through positions (A) 20° 00' N., 23° 20' W. (B) 17° 00' N., 21° 10' W. (C) 9° 25' N. 18° 20' W., thence to Freetown.
N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0750A/15 refers.
(?C. in C. S.A., 2057N/19 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada)

AQUITANIA, handling at Capetown.

C. in C. E.I. 0400/16 F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1703/18, P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1610/19 and D. of S.T. 1243/18. Difficulties of handling AQUITANIA at Capetown are appreciated. In view, however, of great importance of transporting maximum number of troops to M.E. at present request you will give further consideration to this urgent matter. 2. If this voyage cannot be arranged no other employment for AQUITANIA until U.S. 14 sailing from Australia in January.
3. Owners consider it is possible to handle ship at Capetown. If so, she could leave Capetown in company with MAURETANIA mid-November.
4. Pending final decision AQUITANIA should be sailed for Colombo in accordance with P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1610/19
(D.O.D. (F) 2245A/19 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A. etc).

Mediterranean.

OTTO LEONHART. (German)

Arrival 18th. (Valencia, 0100/19 to M. of W.T.)

Opposed Landings.

Ref. C. in C. M.E.'s SD/13590 of 13/10. Chiefs of Staff have approved formation of Directorate of Opposed Landings subject to proviso that personnel required can be made available from M.E. resources. Request whether suitable officers are immediately available on Station for these appointments, and if not what increase in establishment is desired. (1st S.L., 1106A/19 to C, in C. Med) Reply 1233/20.

/THORN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

THORN.	Cancel my 1901B/17. Remain area P. Further orders follow. (Capt. S.1., 1115B/19 to THORN)
PORPOISE, TETRARCH.	PORPOISE leaves 035° 20' 014° 14' p.m./20 direct to arrive 033° 35' 025° 00' dusk/24. Proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Grand Harbour 0630 A/23. (Capt. S.10, 1135A/19 to TETRARCH.)
Red Sea Command.	My 1219B/18. Correct para. 3 to read: Rear Adm. R.H.C. Hallifax will take over command of the Red Sea Area of the Station on 21/10 etc. (C. in C. Med., 1140B/19)
Water Tankers for Red Sea.	C. in C. E.I., 0744/18. This is most unsatisfactory. The tankers so far detailed for this service have either proved unsuitable or been reallocated to other services. Meanwhile MYRIEL and PETRELLA are employed in Western Desert. Port Sudan is severely rationing water although STAGPOOL is working there to full capacity. There is no water carrier for Suez or anchorages in Straits of Jubal. (C. in C. Med., 1201B/19 to D. of S.T.)
COETLOGON (?)	Departure 18th COETDATON, French, Sete. (Barcelona, 1244/19 to M. of W.T.)
URSULA attack on convoy.	URSULA attacked convoy at 0802A/18 in 035° 25' N., 011° 39' E. Thought 2 ships sunk. (Capt. S.10 1313A/19 to UPHOLDER, URGE.)
TALISMAN.	TALISMAN sails 1700B/20 and proceeds end of Searched Channel through (a) 032° 06' 028° 30'. (b) 033° 00', 025° 00'. (c) ?032° ?058°. 022° 32' and thence as necessary for Patrol in area B south of 033° 20' N., between 021° 54' (?and) 022° 40' E. E.T.A. in Area (corrupt group) 23/10. (Capt. S.1., 1545B/19 to C. in C. Med).

/TRUANT.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

TRUANT, THORN, TRUSTY.

Operation B.S. Appendix 1 recreation patrol line. 3 - 037° 30' N., 019° 05' E., - 090° - 12 - 000° - 20. Position (a) 037° 30' 019° 05' - Control position: position (b) TRUANT; position (c) THORN.
Positions are to be taken up as follows, TRUANT as convenient p.m./20. TRUSTY as early as possible on 21st. On 20th THORN is to patrol in vicinity of 036° 55' 020° 30' until dark and then proceed position (c). From noon B/20 until further orders no S/M is to be attacked. S/Ms. are to endeavour to establish S.S.T. communications when safe to do so.
(Capt. S.1., 1731B/19 to TRUANT, THORN, TRUSTY).

Free French at Djibuti.

Fully concur with C. in C. E.I. view in para.2 of his 1910/17. Free French Naval Forces on bases near Djibuti would cause most undesirable complications. Ref. para. 4, I should welcome the tugs at Port Sudan as this would allow relief of tugs from there for Mediterranean, where such craft are at a premium. Alternatively tugs could be sent back (?Djibuti) when we are in possession.
(C. in C. Med., 1931B /19 to Admty).

Malta Raid.

Night 18/19 Oct. 9 bombers approached, 2 crossed island. Bombs in sea and on land. Slight damage to civilian property. Civilians 5 killed 1 seriously wounded and 1 soldier. Hurricanes up no illuminations or interceptions.

Convoy Attacked.

Night Oct. 18/19, 1937 hours. Special Wellington search sighted convoy 85 miles north west Tripoli southbound 8 knots. Dropped flares for 6 Swordfish attack 2005 hours. 1 returned engine trouble. Convoy 2 M/Vs 5,000 tons 1 M/V 6,000 tons 1 M/V 3,000 tons 4 destroyers. 3 direct torpedo hits 1 M/V 6,000 tons stopped. 3 fires visible 10 miles. Second M/V probably damaged, opposition intense. (H.Q. Malta, 2233/19)

U/B

One submarine 034° 32' N., 023° 14' E., course 170° speed 5 knots at 0830A.
(Capt. S.10 2255A/19 to S/Ms on patrol etc)

REGENT.

Leave patrol and return to Alexandria through following positions (X) 033° 32' 020° 24' (Y) 033° 32' 024° 04' (Z) 031° 58' 028° 26'.
Pass through position (Y) at about 0400B/24.
Leave patrol as necessary on 22nd. Adjust speed to arrive Alexandria sanctuary 0500B/26.
(Capt. S.1., 2311B/19 to REGENT amended 1921B/20)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

N.O. for Tiflis Mission. Chiefs of Staff, on advice of Foreign Secretary, have agreed not to pursue further the matter of obtaining Russian sanction for attachment of a Naval Officer to Tiflis Mission, as it is unlikely that Russians would agree under present circumstances. (W.O., 1800/19 to C. in C. India.)

Guns for M/Vs. Your 1720/12. Arrangements now made to forward 100.30 Savage Lewis equipments, for Aden Shuttle Service. Small supplies of .30 Tracer have been arranged for Port Said and should be drawn upon until stocks permit of despatch to Aden and other ports abroad. Intended to distribute single mountings with gun shields to ports abroad for permanently mounting any surplus guns of this type not required for shuttle service purposes. (D.T.D. 2044A/19 to C. in C. E.I.)

Kerguelen Operation. Your 1330/18. It is considered that one 8" Cruiser should be employed in Kerguelen Operation. She could always be recalled if the situation deteriorates. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2136A/19 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

HERMOD. (German) Arrival 19/10. (Penang 0301Z/19 to M. of W.T.)

Allied Shipping instructions. Your 0313Z/6 para (d). The fact that the information is given verbally and that it will not necessarily have been given to all allied masters may lead to uncertainty of correct action being taken by all ships at sea if the signal "Seek refuge port" is made in the near future. Request you will consider making a G.B.M.S. Message in the sense of para (b) (1) in addition to the signal mentioned above. This should not give away too much information concerning merchant shipping movements but should ensure that all ships proceed clear of dangerous waters as early as possible.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1818A/19 to C. in C. China)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Arming of Panama Ships. According to apparently reliable reports, the new Cabinet in Panama on 18/10 reversed the decision taken some time ago by the Cabinet of the former President Arias, and resolved to allow ships under the Panamanian registry to be armed. Of the 270 ships in Panama's merchant marine, 82 - 70 of them being oil tankers - are owned by United States interests. (The Times, 20/10/41)

SURCOUF. It is expected SURCOUF will complete working up practices at New London about 18/11. Request confirmation that she is to proceed to Bermuda. (B.A.R.M. 0858R/19 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

DESPATCH. To leave Bermuda p.m./21 and proceed to Kingston, Jamaica, via Turks Island and Windward passage so as to arrive a.m./24. (C. in C. A.W.I. 09320/19 to S.O. W. Indies Force)

Corvettes. A.M.1346A/7/10. Arrangements for refits of 10 Canadian-manned R.N. corvettes. (D.O.D.(H) 1101A/19 to B.A.R.M., C.C.N.F.) See Lion Copy.

PETUNIA. C. in C. W.A. 1237A/19, being passed to you. Request appropriate action may be taken as I have insufficient knowledge of this movement to interfere. JAMES H. HUGHES and BARWICK are still at St. Anthony N.F. and will proceed Julianahaab when weather moderates.
(C.C.N.F. 1449A/19 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

DIANTHUS. My 0357Z/17. DIANTHUS sails St. Johns, Newfoundland 20/10 to arrive Charleston p.m./26 with similar arrival instructions as POLYANTHUS vide your 1534R/29/9.
(C.C.N.F. 1509Z/19 to B.A.R.M.)

SPIKENARD. N.S.H.Q's 1340N/17. Following from S.D.Y. - SPIKENARD CY 599 being taken in hand at Liverpool, N.S. p.m./20. Anticipated time required to complete defects &c 5 to 6 weeks.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1715Z/19 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

/Supplies ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

Supplies for U/Bs. Your 1738R/14 and 2056R/16. The U-boats mentioned are not in Western Atlantic. There is at present no evidence of any U-boats in the Caribbean. (D.N.I. 1923A/19 to S.O.I. Kingston, Jamaica.)

HIGHLAND PRINCESS. Your 1653/17. Propose HIGHLAND PRINCESS should proceed from New York to Halifax sailing thence about 24/10 with CHITRAL, WORCESTERSHIRE, AUSONIA and MONTCLARE to U.K. 2. If desired you may use her up to her full complement in accordance with A.M.1936A/25/9 only.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1939A/19 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

A.M.Cs. A.M.1655A/15. CHITRAL, WORCESTERSHIRE, AUSONIA, MONTCLARE and S.S. HIGHLAND PRINCESS should leave Halifax for U.K. on 24/10. 2. Ships will sail in convoy at best speed to meet destroyer escort at M.O.M.P. 3. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to arrange as requisite for A.M.Cs to proceed to Halifax. 4.C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to sail ships to conform with route and R/V to be promulgated by Admiralty and to signal estimated S. of A. 5. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide and sail A/S escort as necessary to meet convoy. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1944A/19 to C. in C. A.W.I., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C. in C. W.A.

Australia and New Zealand.

OISEAU DES ILES. Three-masted Schooner OISEAU DES ILES with crew has been requisitioned, armed and placed in service by Free French Naval Forces. Ship is commanded by Lieut. De Vaisseau Praud and will normally be stationed in French Oceania.
(High Commissioner France in Pacific 0335Z/19 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.10.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

INVERLEE. INVERLEE torpedoed and sunk in approx. 270°. Spartel 15 at 0200 19. (F.O.C.N.A. 0410A/19) British tanker 9158 tons, independent from Trinidad to Gibraltar. (D.S. 775, 19/10) Daily Summary Ops 202 Sqdn. One Catalina A/S search West, 0700 to Dusk, sighted torpedoed tanker INVERLEE 0744. 35.97 N. 06.15 W. broken in 2. Photographs taken of sinking. 1 Catalina A/S Hunt around INVERLEE, 1030 to Dusk. (200 Group 1835/19 to Air Min.)

BARON KELVIN. My 1216A/ (Nt.in W.D) INVERLEE now reported sunk. BARON KELVIN on passage from Lisbon to Gibraltar torpedoed and sunk in vicinity of Cape Trafalgar at about 0900. Some survivors from both ships. Three destroyers, six corvettes one sloop hunting area. (F.O.C.N.A. 1748A/19 to Admty) BARON KELVIN, British, 3081 tons.

S.C.48 (attacked 17/10) Ships in company MIMOSA, CAMROSE, E.T.A. 0030Z/20. Survivors, BOLD VENTURE 9 Officers 7 men; BARFONN 3 Officers 19 men; ERVIKEN 2 men; EVROS one man, ship sunk in 057° 00' N. 024° 30'W. Survivors on board MIMOSA. SILVERCEDAR 23 men 3 Officers. ILA 5 men 2 Officers, ship sunk in 053° 34' N. 030° 10' W. One cot case, 5 walking cases. (WETASKIWIN, 1131Z/19 to A.C.I.C.)

ARGUN (reported torpedoed 18/10.) Your 1800C/18. Please confirm if possible whether U.Boat or mine. Presume SUFFOLK informed. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1559C/19 to S.B.N.O. Archangel) Reply: 1550/20.

VANCOUVER ISLAND. (torpedoed 15/10.) Request following may be passed to C.C.N.F. through Opnav from C. in C. W.A. (Begins) - Request you will investigate reasons for apparent delay in DIANTHUS reporting that she and ACONITE were unable to proceed to assistance of VANCOUVER ISLAND in accordance with U.S.Chief Naval Operations 2345Z/15. (C. in C. W.A. 2301A/19 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

19.10.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1114 G.M.T. — By D/F at 1114 G.M.T. U.Boat in area 53° to 53° 30' N. 17° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 1529A/19)

1215 G.M.T. — By D/F at 1215 G.M.T. U.boat in 51° N. 17° 30' W. unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1401A/19)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1443A/19.)

0200 — U-Boats in 036° 05' N. 006° 03' W. a.m./19 and 035° 38' N. 006° 17' W. at 0200/19.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1555A/19 to S.and A., N.A. Stn.)

1430C. — Bearing by D/F at 1430C/19 U-Boats 069° 05' 041° 30'. Admty. pass to SUFFOLK.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1652C/19 to Admty.)

18/10 — Your 1811A/18. Please state dates, particulars, nature of source and grading of the two U-boat reports referred to.
(D.N.I. 1704A/19 to C. In C.W.A.)

Submarine situation 19th Oct.
(U.S. C.N.O., 2226Z/19)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. — Am over enemy submarine in 47.22 N. 8.30 W.
(A/C using call sign Z7RU 1159/19 to 19 Group)
My 1157. Enemy Sub. was sighted on surface and then observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 250° speed 7 knots.
(A/C, Z7RU 1215/19 to 19 Group)
My 1157. Enemy Submarine has dived. Have lost touch with Submarine last position 47.22 N., 8.30 W. (A/C Z7RU 1230/19 to 19 Group)

By MALLOW. — MALLOW attacked a (?good) contact at 2100A/19 276°. Spartel 11. She is remaining in the vicinity till daylight.
(ROCHESTER, 2330A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Position 35.48 N., 6.10 W., 11' W. of Cape Spartel. (D.S.776)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Gale damage. A gale today caused some damage and delay to shipping. At Aultbea oiler WAR PATHAN was -damaged, drifter JESSIE TAIT was sunk, and 6 other minor war vessels were damaged and put out of action. RICHMOND was damaged and -put into Londonderry. VICTORIOUS suffered some damage and the two destroyers with her had to heave to off Tiumpan Head and the carrier entered Scapa alone. LAFOREY arrived at Greenock with defects due to the gale which required dockyard assistance.

KING GEORGE V. The recant operations in the Mediterranean showed that the KING GEORGE class is unsuitable for personnel in hot climates. Evaporator power is inadequate for long periods at sea and there is every reason to expect failure of V.S.G. pumps for 14 inch turrets which is liable to have a serious effect on the efficiency of the main armament.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather last night restricted operations.

3 Hudsons of Coastal Command this afternoon successfully attacked a seaplane base in Thisted Bay, Denmark.

A Blenheim of Bomber Command secured a hit on a Flakship off Ijmuiden this afternoon.

Two Spitfires of Fighter Command gunned a Flakship this morning near Le Havre and left it sinking after an explosion.

Enemy Air Operations.

Norwegian steamer RASK is reported to have been bombed and sunk by 3 H.E.115s at 1930A/~~today~~, 12 miles S.E. of the Tuskar.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

The Humber was closed at 2043A today, but after being reopened it was closed again at 2350A on account of minelaying.

Thames Estuary. — Enemy aircraft were active over the Thames Estuary last night, and mines were apparently laid. Mines were detonated today.

Liverpool was closed on account of minelaying at 2321A today.

M.F.A. CORDELIA detonated an acoustic mine at 1100 off Great Castle Head (Milford Haven) and was damaged.

North Atlantic.

Suspicious Tanker. — HERMIONE sailed from Gibraltar to intercept a tanker, possibly German from Bordeaux which was sighted by a civil aircraft at 1057A today in 44° 7' N. 10° 7' W. steering 260°. Air R/C has been arranged for today and tomorrow.

Mediterranean.

Operation B.S. — TRUANT, THORN and TRUSTY are to carry out an operation off Zante.

C. in C. Med. reports that TORBAY, on a short patrol for a special mission bombarded Apollonia at 1800/15 and obtained several hits on a hangar before being driven off by a shore battery.

/All ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - contd.

All light forces are being employed in bombardments. Operation "Cultivate", supply of Tobruk and A/S sweeps. A destroyer bombardment of Marsa Lukh last night was abandoned on account of HAVOCK grounding: She was escorted back to Alexandria. GNAT bombarded enemy batteries near Tobruk last night and on the previous night; shelling by the battery had recently been on an increased scale.

Libya and Western Desert.

17 Wellingtons bombed targets at Tripoli last night. A 3000 ton ship off Castello was set on fire. Fires were visible 150 miles.

3 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour.

U-Boat Campaign.

BRITISH MARINER (Tanker) reported at 0400Z today that she was torpedoed in the engine room in 7° 43' N. 14° 20' W.

C. in C. S.A. reports that at 1100/7 LAERTES rammed a possible U-boat in 6° 10' S. 3° 23' W.

An aircraft reported a hit with a depth charge on a U-boat at 8 A.M. today, 120 miles W.S.W. of Cape Verde.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Use of Irish Territorial Waters.

Your 1811/18. Admiralty General Message 664 A.Z. (A.M.1918/6/7/40) states Government policy. Admiralty message 1648/13/7/40 to F.O.I.C. Belfast is also being passed to you.
(Adty 1318A/20 to C. in C. W.A.)
Admiralty message 1648/13/7/40 to F.O.I.C.Belfast is passed to you for information. Begins :-
"Your telephone enquiry of 8th July concerning Admiralty General Message 664AZ. Eire Government are aware of the instructions, but it is important that they should not be embarrassed by these instructions becoming public or by their knowledge of them being divulged to the Ulster Government." Ends.
(Head of M. 1319A/20 to Cs in C. H.F., Plymouth, W.A., A.O.C. in C.C.C., and Air Ministry)

36th and 37th Escort Groups.

1. When new O.G. and H.G. cycle is in full operation 36th and 37th escort groups will be absent from base about 7 weeks and will spend about 19 days at Gibraltar. Recent experience has shown that it is essential that boilers should be cleaned both at Gibraltar and Home bases.
2. I shall be grateful if you will not use these ships for local duties except in emergency. Request if possible boiler cleaning may be arranged so that each group as a whole will have one week available for group exercises to include A/S practices with a submarine.
(C. in C. W.A. 1722A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Co-operation with Russia

White Sea Approaches. A/S and A/A Defences.

C. in C. H.F. 1824A/18 and 1217A/17. Both matters receiving earnest consideration by Soviet Authorities.
2. Only forces at present available A/S patrols are 3 SHTORM Class destroyers and number of converted trawlers who patrol area and are based Iokanskie. At recent Moscow Conference believed Soviet requested U.S. Government for ten destroyers for these waters. Suggest for consideration laying of deep minefield from Kanin Nos in direction Svytoi Nos. C. in C. Northern Fleet concurs but has no mines available. Field should be laid before December when ice conditions will render laying impossible. Deep mines once laid would not be affected by ice conditions.
3. New landing ground now completed Ponoi and Fighter Aircraft from Archangel will shortly be stationed there and could then afford Fighter protection for arrival and departure of British Forces.
4. Recommend Q P Convoys should pass 66° 30' N.

/to ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

White Sea Approaches. A/S and A/A Defences. contd.

to 67° 30' N. in dark hours to avoid possible sight by enemy aircraft. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and N.C.S.O. Archangel. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1833C/20.)

Movements.

QUORN. Have been ordered to return south. My position 21 B Buoy, speed 12 knots. Request instructions. (QUORN 0434A/20 to C. in C. Nore.)

LAFOREY LIGHTNING. LAFOREY and LIGHTNING have torpedoes and warheads boxed and stowed on deck. In galc LIGHTNING lost two torpedoes overboard. Considcr it insadvisable to proceed through Pentland Firth with this deck cargo if gale persists. LAFOREY A/S set out of action. (Capt. D.19 0815/20 to R.A.D. H.F.)

A.F.D.14. Your 1755/16. Sailing postponed until weather moderates. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0913/20.)

HOLDERNESS. On parting company with CUMBERLAND return to Sheerness. (C. in C. Nore 0956/20 to HOLDERNESS.)

4th M/S. Flotilla. My 1805/18. Sailing postponed until weather moderates. (A.C.O.S. 1049/20.)

MALAYA. Scapa departure MALAYA for Greenock escorted by LAFOREY and LIGHTNING. E.T.A. 1030/21. (A.C.O.S. 1059/20)

CASTLETON. MENESTHEUS. CASTLETON proceed Greenock with S.N.14 and await MENESTHEUS probably arriving 23. Escort her to Port Z A after she has discharged cargo. (R.A.M. 1147A/20.)

VICTORIOUS. LAFOREY. LIGHTNING. My 0137/20. Destroyers hove to off Tiumypan Head. VICTORIOUS E.T.A. 1445A. (VICTORIOUS 1151/20.) Scapa arrival VICTORIOUS. (A.C.O.S.1735A/20.)

/BERWICK ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

BERWICK. — Comply with my 1737/19 with all dates and times 24 hours late.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1622/20 to BERWICK.)

MAORI. — My 2258A/15/8. On completion of refit request you will sail MAORI for Scapa for short working up period.
2. MAORI will be required as part escort for W.S.12Z leaving Clyde about 7/11 subsequently joining Force H.
(D.O.D. H. 1735A/20 to C. in C. Nore.)

DULVERTON. — Will be required as part escort for W.S.12 Z leaving Clyde about 7/11 subsequently joining Mediterranean Fleet.
2. Request you will sail her for the Clyde accordingly.
(D.O.D. H. 1740A/20 to R.A.D. H.F.)

L.27. — S/M L.27 submerged by day, surface by night, is approaching 050° N. 020° W. thence to 048° N. 022° W.
(C. in C. W.A. 1754A/20.)

VERITY.
BADSWORTH.
BEVERLEY. — On completion of escort duty proceed to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 1758A/20 to VERITY, etc.)

TENACITY. — Intend sailing TENACITY at 0700A/21 for Stornoway to embark (corrupt group) E.T.A. 1900. Request you sail TENACITY in time to R/V O.N. in 058° 50' N. 006° 07' W. at 1300A/22.
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1841A/20)

GLADIOLUS. — Report P.C. and S.
(C. in C. W.A. 2018A/20 to GLADIOLUS.)

ELECTRA. — Cancel my 1120A/20 para 2. Request ELECTRA may be sailed for Scapa as soon as possible.
(R.A.D. H.F. 2209A/20.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation H.G.

My 1026/19. Operation H.G. postponed a further 24 hours.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0950/20)

MARSDALE Patrol.

MARSDALE to patrol E.Z.one, F.Z.one, until 2000A/28. Thence to H.X.3. E.T.A. on patrol A.M.24th.
(S.O.W.P.1510A/20)

Kola Peninsula. A/S Searches.

After sweeping SUFFOLK out, minesweepers carried out A/S search off Gorodetski last night and this will be repeated tonight. NORMAN sails tomorrow to carry out similar night searches returning Wednesday. No signs of T.U.C. delegates yet. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1942C/20 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

British Air Activity.

Operation "Rover"

Carry out operation "Rover" tonight with three A/C of 407 Squadron between Texel and Borkum. First two patrols at discretion of station Commander. Last patrol to be on Datum between 0230 and 0530.
(A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1125/20)
6 A/C of 500 Squadron are to stand by tonight to take off if favourable information is received from A/C of 407 Squadron on ROVER. Attack to be carried out at first daylight or later if cloud cover permits.
(Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1135/20.)

Operation "Nomad".

Carry out operation "Nomad" tonight with two A/C of 59 Sqdn. between Walcheren and Texel.
(A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1145/20.)

Camouflage Trial at Worthy Down.

Subject to your concurrence it is intended to carry out a camouflage trial of Scorpions at Worthy Down in the near future for the information of the Defence of Aerodromes Committee 2. The following procedure for the trial is desired. Details.
5. Request you arrange for concentrating 10 Scorpions at Worthy Down by transferring as necessary from Lee-on-Solent.
(D. of L.D. 1843A/20 to RANAS)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 20.10.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

S.S. RAST sunk. Norwegian steamer probably LINZ reported bombed night 19/20 when 6 miles South of Tuskar. Ship sunk. 3 dead, remainder of crew saved by WALLACE ROSE. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1434A/20)

Spitzbergen. Information from Russian Sources graded B one indicates that JU 52 aircraft recently landed at Spitzbergen with equipment and personnel for short wave DF station. Flights made from Banak on October 8th, 11th, 14th and 18th returning from Spitzbergen on following days. (D.D.I.C. 1633A/20)

Mining

Operation S.N.24 C. Intend to carry out as follows with PORT QUEBEC and NEWARK on 22/10. Details. (R.A.M. 0934A/20) See Lion Copy.

Thames Estuary. One S.A. Mine detonated at 1221/19 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0955/20)
ARISTOCRAT reports that at 1129/20 when 2 cables S.E. of J. buoy a mine exploded 002° 2 miles approx. from ship. No ships in vicinity. (X.D.O. Sheerness 1232A/20)
At 1000/20 one Ground Mine exploded in 51° 44' 54" N. 1° 24' 54" E. Details. (WINCHESTER 1500/20)
At 1927/17 one S.A. Mine detonated as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1601/20)
Enemy planes were active over the Thames Estuary during the night 19/20 from 1920 to 2050. Explosions which appeared to be premature mines occurred as follows :- 1940 two on Shingles Shoal, 1944 two near entrance to Colne River, 1948 two on Maplin Sands. Aircraft at times flew below cloud level when over convoy, and were very heavily engaged by all ships. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1759/20)

CORDELIA (British Tanker 8190 Tons) damaged. Received 1004 G.M.T. de CORDELIA. Begins. CARDELIT S.13 mined. Send tugs. Anchored outside Milford Haven, ends. (Burnham Radio 1104/20)
Acoustic Mine detonated by M.F.A. CORDELIA at 1100 in position 141°. Great Castlehead low light 6.3 cables. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1835/20)

/Clyde ...

War Diary. 20.10.1941 Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

Clyde. An explosion almost certainly a mine occurred at 0600 this morning in about 55° 56.7' N. 4° 39.8' W. A few windows on shore were broken. During the night there was a full gale. (Comm. M/S Greenock 1635/20)

Off Ventnor. One drifting German mine type T. sunk in 50° 36' 54" N. 01° 01' W. Weather made recovery impossible. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1735A/20)

German Float. A German conical float type 2 has been washed ashore at Druid Stone Sands, St. Bride's Bay. It showed signs of having been in water a considerable time. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1836/20)

Humber. Humber closed to navigation. Minelaying. (F.O. Humber 2043A/20)
Cancel my 2043A/20. (F.O. Humber 2216A/20)
My 2043A/20. Minelaying not suspected. (F.O. Humber 2248A/20)
Humber closed to navigation. Minelaying. (F.O. Humber 2550A/20)

Liverpool. Port of Liverpool closed due to minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2321A/20)

Enemy Intelligence.

Northern Norway. My 1402A/15. Following enemy Naval Forces are now in North Norway: 4 German torpedo boats JAGUAR class Torpedo Boats. 4 "M" class Mine Sweepers, about 4 U-Boats, "R" type Boat, "E" type Boat, and Armed Trawlers.
(ii) Reported (B One) Junkers 52 aircraft from Banak landed equipment and personnel for short wave D/Fs at Spitzbergen on 8th, 11th, 14th, 18th October.
(C. in C. H.F. 1916A/20 to SUFFOLK)

Navigational.

South Shipwash Buoy. South Shipwash Buoy. Light reported extinguished. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0437A/20) (Hydrographer 0821A/20)

/Thames ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational - contd.

Thames Estuary. Proposed new channel.

Ref. Q.Z.H.382 and 383. It is considered desirable to alter the existing channel to avoid these wrecks. The following new channel is proposed. Details.
(C. in C. Nore 1604A/20)

Technical.

Signals.

At 0001 G.M.T./1/11 recommence S.P. 02296K with November as first month on Home and N.A. Stations.
(D.S.D. 1606A/20)

Casualties and Defects.

VASSILOIS A. POLEMIS. (Greek 5429 tons.)

S O S 25 north east Tory Island. Helpless.
(Liverpool W/T 0508/20)
Detach one destroyer to investigate and stand by. (C. in C. W.A. 0624A/20 to BULLDOG.)

RICHMOND.

Sustained following gale damage. E.T.A. Londonderry 1430A/20.
(RICHMOND 1010A/20)

EMPIRE WATERHEN. (Broke down 15/10)

Arrived Rothesay Bay Tug MARAUDER towing EMPIRE WATERHEN. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1115A/20)
The successful tow of EMPIRE WATERHEN to Rothesay in the present weather conditions is most creditable.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1117A/20 to MARAUDER)

JESSIE TAIT (Drifter) sunk. BERKSHIRE. WAR PATHAN. Gate Vessel T.L.C.21 SECUTA. DALE CASTLE. NANCY GLEN MAY II damaged.

Following is report of damage to H.M. ships during gale. Drifter JESSIE TAIT was in collision last night badly holed and has sunk. Salvage may be possible. Trawler BERKSHIRE grounded and Asdic gear damaged now refloated. Oiler WAR PATHAN fouled and damaged in bows. Oiling serviceable GATE vessel damaged and dragged moorings. T.L.C. 21. Engines out of action. Yacht SECUTA superstructure and port side damaged P.C. DALE CASTLE strained and leaking. M.F.V. NANCY GLEN damaged stem. M.F.V. MAY II damaged stem. All the above except WAR PATHAN are out of action.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1437A/20)

/LAFOREY ...

MOST SECRET.

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Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

LAFOREY. Machinery defect which can be dealt with by ships staff requires 12 hours in harbour. Other defects due to gale damage require dockyard assistance and can be dealt with in due course except for temporary repair to motor cutter. (Capt. D.19 1642A/20)

KING GEORGE V. The recent operations in the Mediterranean made it clear that, when under way, ventilation in KING GEORGE V. Class is most inadequate in a hot climate and health and efficiency of ships' company will be seriously affected, which will be aggravated by lack of awning and side screens in harbour. Evaporator power is inadequate for long periods at sea and another serious matter is unreliability of V.S.G. pump for 14 inch turrets any further failure of which, which there is every reason to expect, is liable to have a serious effect on efficiency of main armament. (C. in C. H.F. 2251A/20 to Adty.)

Shipping and Convoys.

S.C.48. HIGHLANDER 1740Z/19. East coast ships should be escorted to Loch Ewe. (C. in C. W.A. 0011A/20 to HIGHLANDER.)

F.S.25. Your 0434/20th. Act as additional escort with F.S.25, to Harwich due to pass 20.C. Buoy 0900. (C. in C. Nore 0603A/20 to QUORN)

W.N.U.95. Ship did not sail owing to stress of weather. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 0934A/20)

Norwegian Coastal Shipping. Following are recent movements. (N.A. Stockholm 1105/20) See Lion Copy.

ALAUNIA. ASCANIA. My 1134A/10. ALAUNIA and ASCANIA departure delayed. (S.O.W.P. 1110/20)

Northbound Coastal Convoys. Forecast of Northbound Convoy sailings from Southend. Details. After 31/10 all northbound sailing will be F.N. Convoys. (C. in C. Rosyth 1203/20)

/E.C.87 ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - contd.

E.C.87. Delayed by gale. E.T.A. Pentland Firth 0100/21. Request lights. (FOXTROT 1230A/20)

W.S.12 Z. Your 0729A/7 para.(iv). A.15, sea speed 18 knots. (S.T.O. Avonmouth 1445A/20)

S.C.49. Following received from BEAGLE begins - Corvettes are covering trawlers until dark, then sweeping towards S.C.49 keeping East of 026° 00' (?thence) subsequently sweeping area from 20 miles ahead of Convoy until 1400Z/22. Ends. (U.S. Chief of Naval Ops. 1925/20)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Carriage of Aircraft.

Your 1348/18. Impracticable load large aircraft in carriers. 2. Blenheim and Beaufighter cannot be stripped light enough in time but will be shipped by merchant vessel first opportunity. 3. ARGUS already loaded with seven damaged Naval aircraft plus twelve uncased R.A.F. engines. 4. Intend loading two French Dewoitines in EAGLE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1004A/20 to Admty.)

Suspicious Tanker.

Civil Aircraft sighted a tanker in 44° 07' N. 10° 07' W. Course 260° at 1057A/20. This may be German tanker from Bordeaux. (D.D.I.C. 1146A/20 to F.O.C.N.A. etc.)
A.M. 1146/20. HERMIONE may be used to endeavour to intercept enemy tanker. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1427A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1146A/20. Request air R/C between latitude 043° 00' N. and 045° 00' N. and longitude 015° 00' W. and 018° 00' W. during daylight hours 21/10 HERMIONE sailing to intercept.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1452A/20 to Admty.)
Your 1452A/20. Following R/C has been and is being flown today and tonight 20/21st. One Catalina ordered to shadow and report tanker last reported in 44° 7' N. 10° 7' W. course 260°, speed 12 knots, at 1050/20, arrived on patrol at 1230/20 and left at 1900/20.
2. A second Catalina now on patrol with orders to search south of 44.07 N., 10.07 W., keeping clear of Spanish coast but closing Portuguese coast, will leave patrol at 0330/21.
3. Nothing yet sighted.
4. Further air R/C is impossible. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2149A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)

A/S Searches.

Admty. 1945A/19 (N.T. in W.D).
-(i) 37th escort group, LAMERTON, DUNCAN and VIDETTE carrying out A/S search west of Gibraltar. On 17 and 18 ships worked towards latitude Cape St. Vincent, on 19 and 20 in vicinity of entrance of Straits as far as 007° West. Catalina co-operating.
(ii) Intend delaying sailing of convoy until P.M./22 so as to carry on with search.
(iii) Corvettes sent to escort VELMA have not met. Both reported, defects and unlikely therefore to contact. DUNCAN and two trawlers sailed A.M./20 to provide escort. Catalina with VELMA.
(iv) In view of present situation suggest retaining WILD SWAN until arrival of WISHART.
(v) Request relief for FLEUR DE LYS may be sent forthwith and any other A/S forces that can be immediately spared. (F.O.C.N.A., 1220A/20 to Admty.)

/CLAN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

CLAN MACDONALD. — Request you will convey congratulations of Board of Admiralty to master and crew of CLAN MACDONALD on her most successful voyage. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1314A/20 to F.O.C.N.A). CLAN MACDONALD whilst on passage unescorted from Malta to Gibraltar was attacked at 1320/17 by 3 Italian aircraft when about 120' S.S.W. of Cagliari. The aircraft fired torpedoes and dropped bombs, but successful avoiding action was taken. 2 hours later she was again attacked by a torpedo bomber which was driven off by gunfire. (D.O.R. 21/10/41).

MARON. — Situation at 2001A/20. MARON patrols N.Z.5., N.Z.6. (F.O.C.N.A., 1418A/20).

DOMINE. — Spanish DOMINE left Fernando Po 14/10 for Teneriffe has on board 2 Italian and 2 German passengers. If met ship is to be boarded and if enemy nationals come within categories given in A.M. 751 A, 13/10/1939 (A.F.O. 277/41) 816 A, 11/11/1939, 827 A, 18/11/1939 and 630 A, 3/10/1941, they are to be removed. Ship has navicert. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632A/20 to N.A. Stn).

Portuguese movements. — Portuguese M/V SERPA PINTO sails 22/10, 10 hours for Cape Verde with troops. Portuguese Sloop BARTOLOMEU DIAS sails 24/10 for Madeira where will remain tenddays returning Lisbon 13/11. (N.A. Lisbon, 1702/20, 1207/23 to Admty.)

VELMA escort. — Departure DUNCAN, ST. NECTAN, ARCTIC RANGER to R/V tanker VELMASas additional escort to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1734A/20 to Admty.) W.D. Note:- Of interest in view of Admty. 1728/20 on torpedoing of tanker INVERLEE.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

U-boats. Sightings and contacts during last 14 days. (D. in C. S.A., 0235N/20). See U-boat Campaign.

W. S.12. Convoy W.S.12 departure 1400/19 local escort VELOX, WRESTLER, ANCHUSA, MIGNONETTE, CALENDULA. Ocean escort DEVONSHIRE joins 0700/20. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0821N/20 to Admty.)

AZALEA. SPIREA. Cancel N.O.I.C. Bathurst's 1245N/19. Comply with F.O.C.N.A's 1132A/18. (C. in C. S.A. 0959N/20 to AZALEA, SPIREA.)

Search of C.Verde Is. My 1301/11 and 1307/13. Intend carrying out this operation 23,24, 25/10 with DUNEDIN, VIMY, BRILLIANT and two Sunderlands with overload petrol and no bombs or depth charges. Operation to be known as "Corridor" and Force as Force 'F'. (C. in C. S.A. 1649N/20 to Admty.).

JANUS. Admty. 0041/14. C.O. JANUS represents fighting efficiency of ship seriously affected by decision that alterations and additions item 41 (fitting of cross levelling gear) should be a B.H. item. Damage suffered by JANUS in action with French Flotilla leader attributed by C.O. directly to tactical limitations imposed by lack of cross levelling gear.
(ii) Request reconsideration with a view to items being undertaken at Simonstown. Gear required from U.K. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1752B/20 to Admty.)

Handling AQUITANIA at Capetown. Your 2245/19. Matter now under further urgent consideration by harbour authorities who have arranged to take new sounding. Further report will be made as soon as possible. P.S.T.O. Egypt is requested report probable loaded draught fore and aft. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1746B/20 to Admty. etc.)

Service Personnel. Following movements are required on West African Coast. (D.O.D.(F) 1855A/20 to C. in C. S.A. amended 1251A/21) See Lion Copy.

/Corvettes....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Corvettes from S.A.D.

Your 1321/19. Concur that there does not appear to be any U/B activity off South America South of the Equator. Admty. have no information to indicate presence of supply ship in St. Paul's Rocks area but it is requested you will use these corvettes as you see fit, recalling them to Freetown if you consider this desirable. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1955A/20 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.12.

Sailed 19/10. List and details. (S.S.T.O. Freetown, 2255N/20) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

Tripoli bombed.

Night 19/20 Oct. 17 Wellingtons bombed selected targets Tripoli. Time over target 2025 hrs. to 0001 hrs., hits Custom House, road junction Dock area, Civil seaplane station, Spanish Mole, and on shipping in harbour. Warehouse near Castello burnt out. 3,000-ton ship off Castello set on fire by 1000 lb. (H.Q. Malta, 0345/20).

UNBEATEN. URSULA.

If possible establish patrols as follows from dusk tonight 20/10. UNBEATEN, 073° 7.5 miles, URSULA 118° 11.5 miles both from Murro Di Porco. Large destroyers might pass to south-east during night. After attack or at 0430A/21 proceed in execution of previous orders. (Cept. S.10. 1041A/20 to UNBEATEN, URSULA).

Benghazi, Sollum bombed.

Night 18/19. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing large fire and explosions at suspected petrol dump on Cathedral Mole, small fires also on Juliana Mole. Two F.A.A. Albacores bombed suspected ammunition dump at Sollum starting small fire on edge of it.

U/B attacked.

A Beaufort attacked Italian submarine 60 miles S.S.W. of West Coast of Crete, bombs falling near submarine. Damage unobserved. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1114/20).

Opposed Landings Directorate.

Your 1106/19. Officers are available on the station. (C. in C. Med., 1233B/20 to Admty.)

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Enemy Sweepers. Two enemy minesweepers sighted close off Cape Carbonara and two further minesweepers N.N.E. of Cape Carbonara 20 miles. (N.O.I.C. Malta 1330A/20 to RORQUAL).

Axis Shipping. A. Two German transports and three Italian cargo vessels full of German troops left Piraeus in direction Fleves at 1430 G.M.T. yesterday.
B. Above vessels were convoyed by two Destroyers.

S/M UENEA. C. German S/M UENEA left the Naval ? Dockyard. Source B.2. (N.A. Istanbul, 1335/20 to Admty.)

B.8. Operation B.8., para 19, bring into force condition A at 0001B/21. (Capt. S.1, 1421B/20 to 1st S.F. on patrol W. of 023° E.)

R.D.F. Recent experience has emphasised the gap that exists in aircraft detection methods owing to lack of effective means of detecting low flying aircraft. This can be overcome to some extent by day by vigilance of (?look) out escorts but at night or in low visibility this (?does not) apply and aircraft (?have been) able to deliver attacks at close (?range) (?at night) without being + by any type of R.D.F. at present fitted in the Fleet.
(ii) It is realised that Admiralty are aware of this state of affairs but matter is one of such importance that I feel it desirable to stress urgent need for solving this problem and to request that this aspect of R.D.F. development may be given most immediate attention. I would also urge that priority in fitting any new gear produced for this (?purpose) may be given to ships operating in Mediterranean where conditions are advantageous to Aircraft and where there is a heavy (5 groups missing) spent. (C. in C. Med. 1444B/20 to Adty.)
+ ? word omitted ? "detected".

REGENT. Advise setting torpedoes 10 feet to 12 feet in anticipation important light enemy Naval unit which may be expected from N.W. at about 1300/21. (Capt. S.10, 1520A/20 to REGENT.)

THRASHER. My 1525A/18. THRASHER leaves position 036° 13' 016° 13' before 0200A/21, and proceeds to Benghazi arriving A.M./23. If torpedoes have been fired she will return to Malta. (Capt. S.10, 1529A/20 to TETRARCH, REGENT.)

/S.B.N.O.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

S.B.N.O. Iskanderan.

For Consular Shipping Adviser. In event of active military operations developing in Southern Turkey you will be appointed Senior B.N.O. Iskanderun. Keep in touch with military R/C parties about to visit Iskanderun and Mersin and give them benefit of your Naval advice. You should take an early opportunity to visit Beirut to consult with Capt. Morse on best methods of organizing a Naval Base organization quickly. (C. in C. Med., 1638B/20 to Consul, Iskanderan).

UPHOLDER.
URGE.
UPRIGHT.

R/C show 3 destroyers, one merchant ship, one tanker, speed 10 knots northbound. UPHOLDER proceed to 034° 48' N. 012° 25' E. URGE 035° 40' N. 012° 07' E. UPRIGHT 038° 15' N. 012° 10' E. Convoy may be expected to pass positions at 0300/21, 0800/21, 0130/22 respectively. (Capt. S.10, 1645A/20 to 10th S.F.) My 1645. Swordfish will attack after 0400A/ and before dawn. One merchant ship following at 8 knots should pass you about one hour after convoy. (Capt. S.10 1943A/20 to UPHOLDER). My 1645/20. Amend position and time to UPHOLDER 034° 40' 012° 20' at 0300A, URGE 035° 40' 011° 54' at 0900A. One merchant ship speed 8 knots passes first position about one hour after convoy. (Capt. S.10, 2105A/20 to UPHOLDER, URGE).

Axis Ships.

Departure 19th MAURO CROCE Italian - Genoa. Arrival 20th ATLAS German, from Genoa. (Barcelona, 1732/20 to M. of W.T.)

TETRARCH.

Your 1135A/19. Owing to head wind E.T.A. Grand Harbour 0630A/24. Weather report 647/1074. (?TETRARCH, 1744A/20 to Capt. S.10).

M.N.B.D.O.

Admty. 2333/4/3/1941. A.A. units to be reformed. (D. of L.D. 1931A/20 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

AURORA.
PENELOPE.
LANCE.
LIVELY.
munitions.

Your 1942A/13, your 1023A/14 and your 1532A/17. Aircraft torpedoes have been sent to Malta, 17 in each of AURORA and PENELOPE and 2 in each of LANCE and LIVELY. 200 rounds of 4 inch XVI S.A.P. embarked in each of above ships. Total 38 torpedoes and 800 rounds ammunition. (A.S. Gibraltar 1934A/20 to Admty.)

/OTTO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-contd.

OTTO LEONHARDT. (German).	Expected sailing tonight 20th for Tarragona. (Valencia, T.H.I. 1940/20 to M. of W.T.)
UNIQUE.	UNIQUE is proceeding from 037° 16' 012° 56' to 036° 07' 014° 16' to arrive Malta A.M./21 and may be encountered on the surface or submerged after daylight. (V.A. Malta, 2009A/20 to Force K).
Service Cargoes.	List and particulars of ships carrying Service cargoes to Suez. (D.S.T. 2033A/ to P.S.T.O. Egypt) See Lion Copy.
Situation report 159.	Western Desert. All light forces are being employed in bombardments, operation "Cultivate", Tobruk supply and A/S sweeps. Destroyer bombardment of Marsa Lukh night 19/20 abandoned due to ?HAVOCK grounding. Force escorting HAVOCK back at 11 knots. Extent of damage not yet known. 7th C.S. at sea today 20th. Further bombardment by cruisers and destroyers intended nightly. GNAT bombarded enemy battery near Tobruk nights 18/19 and 19/20. Shelling by battery had lately been on increased scale. 2. Intensive hunt by destroyers and A/S craft did not locate U-boat which sank SAMOS and PASS OF BALMAHA as in my 1235/17. Other U-boats reported and attacked in area west of Alexandria but no killings so far other than that reported in my 1906/16. A/S measures in Cyprus-Syria area have had to be curtailed temporarily to provide escorts for important shipping to and from Alexandria. 3. Small enemy convoy sighted noon/19 in 34.53 N. 21.30 E. steering for Benghazi. Striking force despatched but failed to intercept. 4. Submarines TORBAY on short patrol for special mission bombarded Apollonia at 1800/15 and scored several hits on hangar before being driven off by 6-in. battery. URSULA reported to have sunk two ships in convoy at 0802/18 in position 035 25 N. 011 39 E. no details. (Q. in C. Med. 2036/20).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

DALHOUSIE. Your 1626/18 DALHOUSIE arrived Calcutta 7th and left 18th due Chittagong 20th. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 0344Z/20 to Admty).

Persian Gulf. Re defence requirements. (C. in C. E.I., 0736Z/20 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

AUSTRALIA Kerguelen, Cruise, mining operations. Your 2136/19.
1. AUSTRALIA will carry out Kerguelen cruise from Colombo calling Mauritius for fuel.
2. CORNWALL has been diverted to Colombo and could escort U.S. 13 from Fremantle after storing. She could not do Kerguelen cruise without causing unacceptable delay to convoy arrangements.
3. AUSTRALIA arrives Colombo P.M./21 and commences loading mines ex PROME A.M./22. To avoid delay to PROME's docking on 21st, 60A mark 1 mines are now being loaded into lighters in readiness.
4. Request early details referred to in your 1739/17. (C. in C. E.I., 1028Z/20 to Admty) Your 1028/20 and A.M.1739/17. Details for laying mines. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1935A/20 to C. in C. E.I.)

LEONARDO DE VINCI. Overdue left Mombasa 7th due Bombay 18th. (S.O.(I) Bombay, 1243Z/20 to S.O.(I) Colombo)

Padli Ex-Sultan. Governor Aden has recommended deportation of ex-Sultan of Padli to Seychelles. No objection is seen here. You should keep in touch with Governor for progress of events. (Head of M., 1321A/20 to C. in C. E.I.)

DRAGON. Cancel my 1412B/15. Intended programme. Arrive Mauritius p.m./30. Arrive Colombo 8/11. (DRAGON, 1521Z/20 to C. in C. E.I.)

HERMES. Your 1206Z/18. Para. 1 approved.
2. Admty 0540A/4/9 addressed Commodore in Charge, Hong Kong, It is understood that additional petrol tanks for HERMES should reach Colombo within the next few days. If these arrive in time they should be embarked by HERMES for fitting during forthcoming refit or for progressing the work if date of completion would otherwise be delayed. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2357A/20 to C. in C. E.I. amended 1259A/21)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

VAMPIRE. — VAMPIRE will be ready for service about 15/11. To what station should she proceed? (C. in C. China, 02432/20 to Admty).

Allied Shipping. — Your 1112/18. In view of arrangements detailed in my 0313/6 para. B., prefer ships obtained latest instructions at Thursday Island subject to concurrence of A.C.N.B. (C. in C. China, 03512/20 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.B.L.O. Singapore. — Your 1339/13. Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster is in full agreement with my proposal and that it should be carried into effect now. Request action may be taken to make Col. Burkhardt available. (C. in C. China, 08332/20 to Admty)

Dutch C. in C. — Ref. Batavia tel. 217 16/10 to F.O. Essential that new C. in C. should be known and trusted by his colleagues of the A.D.B. Discussions Ter Poorten meets these requirements, is excellent co-operator, and is fully conversant with our mutual problems and plans. I should welcome his appointment. (C. in C. Far East, 1240/20 to W.O.)

America & West Indies.

WORCESTERSHIRE. — Your 1939A/19 and my 10310/15. Request confirmation that WORCESTERSHIRE is to proceed to U.K. Leave was last given June-July 1941. (C. in C. A.W.I., 10220/20 to Admty) Confirmed, (D.O.D. (F) 1154A/21 to C. in C. AW.I.)

DIANTHUS and VANCOUVER ISLAND. — Repeating C. in C. W.A., 2301A/19. (see U-boat Campaign, 19/10) (D.T.D., 1114Z/20 to Opnav).

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 20.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Convoy.
Your 1248A/19.
(1) Convoy "Cargo" less EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW will sail A.M./25 by original route, arriving M.O.M.P. 1200Z/2/11.
(2) M. of W.T. is requested to sail EMPIRE CONDOR, EMPIRE CURLEW, to Halifax as soon as they are loaded and to report if they cannot arrive there in time to sail for U.K. on 4/11. (B.A.D., 1123R/20 to Admty).

DESPATCH C. in C.
Intended to transfer my flag to DESPATCH and leave Bermuda P.M./21, arriving Kingston (?Jamaica) A.M./24. Leave Jamaica P.M./25, arrives Bermuda 28/10. Routine communications should continue to be sent Bermuda where all tables will be held. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1214Q/20 to Admty).

C.T.5.
Your 1248/19. Confirmed these arrangements are suitable. 2. Request confirmation that destroyers mentioned in para, 4 are R.N. and no request should be made to U.S.
(B.A.D. 1221R/20 to Admty)

Flag of C. in C.
Flag of C. in C. will be transferred to DESPATCH from p.m./21 to /28 incl. Only urgent communications requiring C. in C's (personal?) attention should be sent to DESPATCH. (?Remainder) to Squadron as usual. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1224Q/20 to A.W.I. Station).

MOUNT KITHERON (Greek).
Ex. O.N.S. 23 for Wabana developed leak in one, two and three bilges and boilers respectively ordered St. Johns N.F. by Commodore for Repairs. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1436Z/20 to Admty).

U.S. Transports.
Your 2011R/15. Request U.S. transports arrive Halifax a.m./5/11 for necessary inspection and arrangements for transhipment programme. Anticipate 48 hours will be required for transhipment at Halifax and that U.S. Transports will be ready to sail a.m./9. C.O.A.C. Halifax will report any revision of above programme.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1626Z/20 to B.A.D.)

/U.S.N.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

U.S.N. Communications. Your 1527/17. Navy Department will retransmit Groups to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa direct by W/T. Request necessary passing instructions may be inserted in preface using cable groups.
(B.A.D., 1711R/20 to Admty).

ROODE ZEE relief. Admiralty 2208/6/10. Re most suitable tugs available to relieve ROODE ZEE.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1843Z/20 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Enemy Unit. By D/F at 1443Z/20, Bearings of enemy surface vessel, 76 groups 4-letter code. T.C.O. 1547/20. (D.D.I.C., 1917A/20 to Alusna for Opnav, etc)
O.I.C. Comment. These bearings indicate a position within 300 miles of 30° S., 122° W.

HIGHLAND PRINCESS. Your 1939/19. Midship New York embarking up to 150 civilian personnel for passage U.K. in HIGHLAND PRINCESS to arrive Halifax p.m./23. Anticipate less than 100 service personnel, 100 civilian technical corps, and 100 civilians including women will embark Halifax.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1933Z/20 to Admty).
My 1933/20. Midship, New York, reports HIGHLAND PRINCESS sailing delayed, machinery defects, but will sail to arrive Halifax 0900Z/24 and can proceed immediately after embarking personnel.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2123Z/20 to Admty).

EXCAMBION. Following for C.C.S.O. from M.E.W.
EXCAMBION 17/10 Lisbon for Bermuda has one case of commerical documents covered by EXPASS 1086. Ship must be detained during examination of case on board unless Master should elect voluntarily to land case to avoid delay. Understand case is accessible for removal.
(D.E.W.D. 1936A/20 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/Kerguelen.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

Kerguelen Cruise. Escort of U.S.13.

In view of frequent reports that Kerguelen Island is used by enemy raiders C. in C. E.I. has been asked to send AUSTRALIA there in near future. She will also lay magnetic mines in likely anchorages. She will not therefore be available to escort U.S.13. CORNWALL could be made available to provide this escort from Fremantle but it would be of great assistance if you were able to provide escort for a portion of the route and so avoid two of C. in C. E.I. 8" cruisers being detached on distant service simultaneously (A.C.N.S. (F) 1956A/20 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAION.

Submarines Reported.

	Date and time.	Reported by.	Position.	Nature of Report.
South Atlantic. Contd.	0500/19.	VIMY.	04.50 15.05	D.F.U.boat (?Homing.) signals.
	0300/20.	BRITISH MARINER.	07.43 14.20.	torpedoed.
	0823/20.	A/C.	14.31 19.53	sighting, estimate one hit.
	0940/20.	A/C.	07.15 15.37	sighting on surface, later submerged.

All positions N., and W., all times Z + 1.
(C. in C.S.A., 0235N/20, to Admty.)

0315N. Following has been read from TURCOMAN. 1 S/M bearing distance and course unknown, position 2310 8L 68303.
(Freetown W/T, 0315N/20, to Admty.)
Position indecipherable.

0940. Am over enemy submarine in 007° 15' N., 015° 37' W.
(A/C B Sqdn., 0940/20 to C. in C.S.A.)

0700C. Bearing by D/F at 0700C/20th position of enemy U-Boat was 070° 55' 038° 12' reliable fix.
Admty., pass to SUFFOLK.
(S.B.N.O., North Russia, 1025C/20 to Admty.)

1210C. Bearing by D/F at (?1210C)/20 position of enemy U-boat was 068° 34' 039° 52', reliable fix.
Admty., pass to SUFFOLK.
(S.B.N.O., North Russia, 1246C/20 to Admty.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1426A/20.)

1730C. By D/F at 1730C/20 position of U Boat was 068° 44' 038° 10', unreliable fix.
(S.B.N.O., North Russia, 1825C/20, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BRITISH MARINER.

Following has been read S S S S 7.43 N.,14.20 W.
BRITISH MARINER torpedoed engine room.
(Freetown W/T, 0400Z/20.)
British, tanker, 6996 tons. Trinidad to Freetown.

ARGUN.
(torpedoed 18/10.)

Admty. 1559C/19 (S.B.N.O. Murmansk's) SUFFOLK informed. Russian staff confirm that ship was sunk by torpedo.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1550C/20 to Admty.)

INVERLEE
(torpedoed 19/10.)

Your 0410A/19 and A.T.2209A/16.
Request if any special steps were taken for safety of this valuable ship in view of known concentration of U-Boats in approaches to Gibraltar and considerable A/S forces available. Consideration should be given to the occasional use of territorial waters when it is not possible to provide an adequate escort.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1728A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Reply 2240/21.
INVERLEE has sunk (D.O.R.,21/10.)

LEHIGH
(torpedoed 19/10.)

Have picked up 22 survivors 4 Spanish stowaways from American Ship. LEHIGH in 008° 47' N., (?014°) 00' W. Ship torpedoed 0900/19 in 008° 26' N., 014° (?37') W.
Two more boats with wounded personnel not located. Am proceeding Bathurst 21 knots.
No men killed as result of torpedoing.
(VIMY, 2100N/20, to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

South Atlantic.

The following sightings of U boats and A/S contacts have been reported on S.A. Station during the last 14 days.

Date and time.	Reported by.	Position.	Nature of Report.
1705/6	WRESTLER.	08.44 15.25	Possible c/t at 4 miles.
1100/7	LAERTES.	06.10 03.23	rammed possible U-boat
1600/15.	A/C.	13.26 17.07.	Sighting U boat Co. 350°6knots.
1801/17.	WALLFLOWER.	09.35 16.02	A/S contact attacked with two patterns.

/0500/19....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.10.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C S.Atlantic.

The following have been read by Freetown W/T.
Am over enemy S/M in 14.31 N., 19.53 W.
(A/C duty E, 0800/20.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges, estimate 1 hit.
(A/C duty E., 0802/20.)

By A/C.

Daily Op. Summ., No. 95 Sqdn. 1 Sunderland anti-submarine air patrol sighted U boat in position 7.15 N., 15.37 W., 9 miles away. No attack made. No focusing point. No.200 Sqdn. 1 Hudson patrol, sighted U boat in 14.31 N., 19.53 W. 4 bombs dropped estimated 1 hit. Airborne 0700 remained in the area until relieved by Sunderland. Landed 1345 Sunderland airborne 1051 still on patrol. Times G.M.T.
(Freetown, 2000/20, to Air Ministry.)

By VERONICA 18/10.

U/B possibly destroyed in 57.01N., 22.10 W., at 1543/18. Details of attack. (Capt. D. Londonderry, 2214A/20 to C. in C.W.A.)
See Lion Copy.

By A/C 19/10.

Italian U/B attacked by Beaufort off Crete.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1114/20.)
See Mediterranean.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Search for U-boat and trawlers.

KRAKOWIAK left Falmouth at 2356 today to R/V with KUJAWIAK from Convoy P.W. 53, to intercept and destroy a U-boat believed to be operating with 4 trawlers, probably Spanish, which were sighted at 1400 today in approx. 50° 50' N., 10° 15' W., and to send the trawlers in to Penzance. 6 aircraft of 19 Group are to sweep to S.W. of Scilly Isles a.m./22. Nothing was sighted and the destroyers were ordered to return at 0730A/24.

Force G.

PRINCE OF WALES (Flag of Admiral Sir Tom Phillips, C. in C. Eastern Fleet) will leave U.K. shortly escorted by ELECTRA and EXPRESS, for Singapore via the Cape. For security reasons this force will be known as Force G from 1200/24 until further orders. The Flag of V.A. 2 will be transferred from PRINCE OF WALES to RENOWN at 0900/25.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command last night resumed its raids on enemy objectives. 181 aircraft attacked Bremen, Wilhelmshaven, Emden and Antwerp. Minor attacks were made on Hamburg and Wesermünde areas, and the docks at Rotterdam.

Blenheims with fighter escort attacked a convoy today off Ijmuiden and apparently damaged two ships.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Bombs were dropped on Merseyside last night, but no naval or shipping damage is reported.

Enemy aircraft dropped 8 H.E. and some I.Bs. in Dover at 1855 causing considerable civilian but no naval damage or casualties.

Mining.

Mines were laid by aircraft last night off the Frisian Islands and Sassnitz.

The Humber was re-opened at 1016A today. Liverpool was opened at 1325.

South Atlantic.

LAVENDER and BERGAMOT are to search the Fernando De Noronha - St. Pauls Rocks area for possible enemy supply ships and U-boats, on their way from South America to Freetown.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

C. in C. Med., takes over Red Sea.

As from today the eastern limit of the Mediterranean Station is extended to 45° 5' E., S.N.O. Red Sea with headquarters at Suez is to be responsible to C. in C. Med., his titles being changed to F.O.C. Red Sea. Aden W/T Station is to remain operatively under C. in C. E.I.

The Red Sea Force will be formed by RATNAGIRI, BATHURST, INDUS, LISMORE and NETRAVATI from East Indies Command and FALMOUTH, PARRAMATTA and SHOREHAM detailed by C. in C. Med.

AURORA and PENELOPE.

AURORA and PENELOPE arrived at Malta at 0915A today with LIVELY and LANCE. These 4 ships will be known as Force K and will be operated by V.A. Malta whilst based at Malta.

Air Operations.

6 Blenheims at 1210 attacked a merchant ship marked with the name of S.S. DIVONA (French) and left her on fire, and also blew up a 600 ton schooner, believed to be carrying petrol, both near Ras Maamoura.

Libya and Western Desert.

GNAT was torpedoed by a U-boat at 0445 today in 32° 6' N., 25° 30' E., whilst returning from Tobruk. GRIFFIN took her in tow and she was brought safely to Alexandria.

4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night. 18 Marylands of S.A.A.F. bombed the harbour and shipping this morning.

AJAX, HOBART and GALATEA bombarded a battery east of Tobruk last night, but shelling of Tobruk continued.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Kerguelen. AUSTRALIA arrived at Colombo to load mines to lay in likely anchorages at Kerguelen.

China.

The Japanese Navy is now on a war footing.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy S.L.89 S.L.89 was attacked at 2105A today in 51° 28' N., 18° 55' W., S.S.SERBINO was torpedoed and sunk. TREUERBYN is missing.

AURANIA torpedoed. AURANIA was struck by a torpedo in about 50° 45' N., 18° 48' W., about 0240Z today but was able to proceed to the Clyde where she arrived at 1544A/23.

GLADIOLUS missing. Nothing has been heard of GLADIOLUS since 16/10, when she was with Convoy S.C. 48 which was attacked by U-boats. It is thought she may have been torpedoed, but there is no evidence.

A Catalina on special patrol attacked a U-boat with depth charges at 1830 today, 380 miles west of the Fastnet and estimates one hit.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Motor Boat from Sweden. — A fast motor boat left Sweden for U.K. p.m./18. If encountered, any assistance asked for is to be rendered. (C. in C. Nore 1430A/21).

AUDACITY. — AUDACITY's 1625A/18. Intend to operate AUDACITY from Gibraltar during winter with O.G. and H.G. convoys and also Sierra Leone convoys when escort situation permits. 2. Concur in AUDACITY's proposal to embark 8 aircraft. Consider a further 4 Martlets should be shipped to Gibraltar for AUDACITY at first opportunity and that disembarked aircraft and personnel of No. 802 Squadron should also be based on Gibraltar. (C. in C. W.A. 1834A/21 to Admty.).

A/S Trawlers for Arctic Service. — Admiralty 1902A/10. Request dates on which trawlers will be ready for service. (C. in C. H.F. 2245A/21)

Co-operation with Russia.

Communications. — War Registry has been notified that communications have been re-established with Admiral Miles' Mission, but that they are not too good and signals should be kept down to as few as possible. H.W.R. 21/10.

Ice at Archangel. — Ice now forming on river, but Russians consider too early to last. Ice reports will be made regularly in future. (SB.N.O. Archangel 09200/21) See Shipping.

Operational Situation. — Following is co-ordinating signal of operational situation and developments since communication with you has been interrupted.
2. (A) SUFFOLK, IMPULSIVE and ESCAPADE sailed from Archangel 19/10 to carry out operation in Svaerholthavet on night 21/22, then to U.K.
(B) NORMAN waiting at Archangel to embark T.U.C. delegation for return to U.K. No present knowledge of whereabouts of delegation.
(C) LEDA, GOSSAMER, and HUSSAR at Archangel. Carrying out M/S and A/S sweeps.
(D) HARRIER, BRITOMART, SALAMANDER and HALCYON sailed Archangel 14/10, HARRIER and BRITOMART reconnoitring Spitzbergen en route. These two ships arrived Longyearby p.m. 19th and found German air borne meteorological party which had arrived same day. HARRIER captured some equipment but all German personnel escaped by air. These 4 British minesweepers now returning to U.K.

/(E).....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Operational Situation - Contd.

(E) Convoy P.Q.2. left Scapa for Archangel 17/10 expects to arrive entrance to White Sea 0700A/28. Escort NORFOLK, 2 destroyers, and three fleet minesweepers.
(F) Convoy Q.P.2 sails for U.K. about 2/11.
(G) TIGRIS left Murmansk for U.K. 20/10.
(H) S.B.N.O. North Russia is urging C. in C. Northern Fleet to take more active A/S and A/A steps in White Sea area.
3. In view of poor communications it is not intended to pass you the actual signals covering para. 2 above.
4. For same reason as in para. 3 request you will report if you wish S.B.N.O. North Russia to become responsible for standard procedure laid down in para. 3 of A.M. 1859/30 August.
(A.C.N.S. M. 1633A/21 to Ad. Miles).

White Sea Approaches. A/A and A/S Defences.

My 18330/20, para. two and C. in C. H.F. 1824A/18. Consider little result can be expected from Soviet A/S patrols.
(Two) Intend to visit Archangel in the near future to investigate this matter.
(Three) Up to date no enemy mines have been found and weather makes laying mines by A/C increasingly difficult. Consider submarines operating White Sea approaches a greater potential danger at the moment than mines.
Recommend that British minesweepers, after refuelling and rest at Archangel, proceed Iokanskie -sweeping channel en route and carry out A/S patrols from there, re-sweeping channel prior to arrival or departure of a convoy, leaving intermediate sweeping to Soviet minesweepers.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 18010/21).

Movements.

JAY.
MYRLAND.
KENNET.

Sailed in company for Freetown calling Azores approximately 31/10 for fuel. JAY and KENNET coaling at Fayal and MYRLAND oiling Ponta Delgada. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0814A/21).
My 0814A/21. Ships have put into Campbeltown due to JAY being unable to keep steam with poor coal supplied. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1749A/21).

/SEALION.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.10.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

SEALION. Intend to sail SEALION at 1500/22 diving by day to R/V with WHITE BEAR at 0715/24 off Lizard Head for escort to Scapa arriving a.m./28 thence in accordance with F.O.S. 1734A/13. (Capt. S.S. 0915A/21 to A.C.O.S.)
My 0915A/21. Route in English Channel as follows. (Capt. S.S. 0917A/21).

4th M/S Flotilla. Scapa departure 0801, 4th S.O. M/S Flotilla in FITZROY with ELGIN, LYDD, ROSS, and minesweeping trawlers RONALDSAY, CAVA, CAPE WYEMETZKY. (A.C.O.S. 0925A/21).

H.31. S/M H.31 passing Sand Head Buoy at dusk 22nd diving by day through following positions to R/V at 0730A/25 October in 180° Lizard Head 5 miles. (Capt. S.7 1014A/21).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Admiralty's 1248A/14. To allow a small margin for bad weather at Greenock intend to sail ROYAL SOVEREIGN to arrive Greenock p.m./26. Ship should be ready for docking on 28/10; (C. in C. H.F. 1157A/21).

PETUNIA. Your 1037Z/19th approved. (A.C.I.C. 1202/21 to PETUNIA).

TIGRIS. At 1400A/24 intend to sail BREDA to meet TIGRIS in 269° Muckle Flugga 5 miles at 0800A/26 and escort her thence by same route to arrive Clyde 0600A/28.
N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange Fighter protection for return passage at S. of A. of 11 knots. (Capt. S.7. 1221A/21).

A.F.D.14. Your 1755/16 and my 0913/20. A.F.D. XIV requires depermaing. Weather permitting intend vessel enters Tyne Dock p.m. tomorrow. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1330/21).

/PRINCE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

PRINCE OF WALES. (Force G.)

PRINCE OF WALES, wearing the Flag of Admiral Sir Tom Phillips, C. in C. Eastern Fleet, and escorted by ELECTRA and EXPRESS will leave U.K. shortly for Singapore via the Cape.
2. For security reasons this force will be known as Force "G" from Noon/24 until further orders. (A.C.N.S. F. 1648A/21).

3 A.M.C's.

Admiralty 1158A/16 and C. in C. Portsmouth 1037A/18. Escort can be provided from Clyde to Lizard Head for 3 Armed Merchant Cruisers leaving Clyde 26/10. Request confirmation that onward escort can be arranged from Lizard Head to destination. (C. in C. W.A. 1912A/21).

EAGLE.
FURY.
FORESTER.
FORESIGHT.

Admiralty's 1332A/13. EAGLE is to proceed to the Clyde, where she is to disembark all air-worthy aircraft to Machrihanish for disposal as in R.A.N.A.S. 1211/14.
2. FURY, FORESTER and FORESIGHT will also proceed to the Clyde.
3. EAGLE is to be sailed from the Clyde to arrive at Liverpool in time to dock A.M./1/11. Ship will be taker in hand for urgent defects.
4. Date of completion is to be 15/11.
(Controller 1944A/21).

PICTOU.

Is anything known of whereabouts of PICTOU.
(C. in C. W.A. 2012A/21 to C.C.N.F.)
Your 2012A/21. No definite information. From CHAMBLY's 0852Z/20 we assumed she was joining. O.N.S. 25. (C.C.N.F. 2214Z/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

HAVELOCK.
HARVESTER.

Request you will sail HAVELOCK and HARVESTER at 0900/22 to Neville. (C. in C. W.A. 2134A/21 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

VANQUISHER.
WITCH.

VANQUISHER and WITCH sailed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1911A/21 and 1730A/21.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 2225A/21).

LONDON.

LONDON is to sail from Scapa as necessary to pass 22 A. buoy at 1100A/ and Tyne Pier Head at 1600A on 25th(2/ C. in C. Rosyth is requetted to provide S.A. escort from 22A buoy. (C. in C. H.F. 2242A/21 to LONDON).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.41.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Anti E-Boat Patrol.

Intend 3 M.L's - 192 (S.O.) 267 and 268 - to carry out anti E-Boat Patrol tonight on line between 220° St. Albans Head 4 miles and 120° Anvil Point 4 miles. M.L's to leave Harbour at Dusk and return at Dawn. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1152A/21).

East Coast Patrols.

Patrol tonight.
(1) Two M.G.B's Q.E. (iii) Shift to Q.E. (ii) at 0001/22.
(ii) Three M.L's Q.E.4 (A).
(iii) Two M.L's and 3 M.G.B's returning to Harwich from Eastward at Daylight.
(C. in C. Nore 1603A/21).
Departure M.L's 105, 106.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1714A/21).
Departure M.G.B's 61, 63, 58. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1731A/21).

Dover Patrols.

Two M/L's on O.D. 5. Three M/L's leave Dover at 2240 in an Easterly direction returning at 0425/22 from the same direction.
(V.A. Dover 1721A/21).
My 1721A. Add two M.T.B's leave Dover at 2045/21 on a southerly course returning about 0230/22.
(V.A. Dover 2055A/21).

Interception of 4 Trawlers and possible U-boat off Mizen Head.

Your 1730A/21. Aircraft reports four trawlers believed Spanish in 50° 51' N. 10° 16' W., course 120°, 6 knots, at 1400/21. Trawlers fired white Verys lights. A swirl was then seen 1½ miles to Northward of trawlers. Possible U-boat. (C. in C. Plymouth 1944A/21).
Four trawlers sighted in about 050° 50' N. 10° 15' W. at 1400/21. Two steering 120° approximately, two steering west speed 6 knots. One pair fired Very's lights after which swirl of possible U-boat nearby. Object. To intercept and destroy U-boat and secondly send trawlers into Penzance. KUJAWIAK is to leave P.W. 53 and proceed north of Scilly Isles to pass through 049° 35' N. 7° W. at 0600/22. KRAKOWIAK is to proceed to be in 49° N. 6° 10' W. at 0600/22. Ships are then to proceed to R/V in 049° 15' N. 060° 45 ' W. at 0730/22. If no contact with enemy by this time proceed north westward. 19 Group carrying out sweep to south west of Scilly Isles a.m./22 with 6 aircraft. (C. in C. Plymouth 2033/21 to KRAKOWIAK, KUJAWIAK).
Departure KRAKOWIAK. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2356/21).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

To intercept Tanker.

3 Catalina Q/209 shadow and report tanker. 1435 airborne Pembroke Dock 20/10/41. 1845 WDCJ 4547 message from base "HERMIONE attempting interception". 2055 JDGA 4720 message from base "Abandon patrol". (R.A.F. Pembroke Dock 0953/21).

Patrols.

P.R.U. Oslo and Kristiansand has taken off. Also "Hornli". (C. in C. Rosyth 1138/21). "Stab", "Bert", "Stand" now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1519/21).

Bombing operations.

On day 19th and Night 19/20 no operations owing to weather. On Night 20/21 Bremen, Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Antwerp and Cuxhaven were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. 1430/21).

Escort for S.N.24C.

Your 0934/20, para. (E). Provided by one Whitley A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth 1611/21 t o R.A.M).

A/C in ARGUS.

My 1332/13. On arrival in Clyde ARGUS is to disembark damaged aircraft and stores and prepare to load 24 R.A.F. Hurricanes for a further ferry trip. The two Swordfish of 818 Squadron are to be retained for this operation. (A.C.N.S. H. 1942A/21 to ARGUS).

Enemy Air Activity:

SUFFOLK reported.

You have probably been reported by enemy A/C who report ship with destroyer escort in 071° 35' N. 034° 30' E. at 09300/21. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 12210/21 to SUFFOLK).

4 Bombers from Banak.

4 aircraft 70° N. 25° E., course northerly. (Murmansk W/T 13300/21 to SUFFOLK). My 13300/24 enemy bombers left Banak at 13300 Northbound. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 13460/21 to SUFFOLK).

RASK (Norwegian 613 Tons), presumed sunk.

RASK abandoned and presumed sunk after direct hit during attack by three H.E. 115's at 1930A/20 (corrected later to 1930A/19) twelve miles S.E. of Tuskar. Four survivors including army gunner landed at Newport, sick second mate and three bodies landed at Rosslare by Steamship WALLACE ROSE. Five of crew including Master put off in motor boat and landed near Blackwater. Five others drowned. One Army gunner lost. (N.O.I.C. Newport 2054A/21) See also N.O.I.C Newport 1303A/22.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Liverpool.	Port of Liverpool will open at 1300 today. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0927/21). Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1325/21).
H.G.	Carry out operation H.G. Dates amended to read 21/22 October. (C. in C. Plymouth 0933/21). Sailed 1330 WELSHMAN, MANXMAN. (C. in C. Plymouth 1406/21).
N.P.25.	Intend to carry out operation N.P. 25 tonight. (V.A. Dover 0951A/21).
Humber.	Humber is open to navigation. (F.O. Humber 1016A/21). At 0714 today Sweepers detonated magnetic mine. Details. (F.O. Humber 1845A/21).
Thames Estuary.	2 S.A. Mines detonated on 19/10 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1041/21). 1 magnetic mine detonated at 2000/19. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1132/21).
Q.K.3. Q.K.4. Q.K.9. Q.K.10	(1) My 1042A/14. Carry out Operation Q.K. (3) tonight, alternative operations Q.K. (4) (9) (10). (2) Supporting force one unit of M.G.B's patrolling between Thornton Ridge and Flushing. (3) On return from their respective operations M.L's and M.G.B's must use full recognition procedure. (C. in C. Nore 1108A/21 to BEEHIVE.)
Operation "Tincture".	Request you will repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m./23 in the manner described in my 1207A/10/9. (D.M.S. 1849A/21 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).
S.N. 240.	Departure PORT QUEBEC and NEWARK. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2245/21).

Enemy Intelligence.

German Destroyer.	My 1751/16. Learn from interception that another German destroyer length 416 feet is expected to dock for examination at Akers yard shortly. Graded A.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1631/21)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Navigational aids to East Coast of Iceland.	Request you will reply to A.M.1559A/3 at your earliest convenience. (D.O.D. H., 1252A/21 to C. in C. H.F.)
South Shipwash Buoy.	South Shipwash gas buoy relit. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1556A/21).

Technical.

Signals.	A.F.O.S. 2/41 Table 6 Line 9 insert VIK (ICELAND(c)) MXO.

Casualties & Defects.

Workington.	Port of Workington is closed to all vessels exceeding 500 tons owing to stranding of S.S. TOWER FIELD in Workington Channel. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0938A/21)
M.L.303.	Sustained slight damage at 0710 today when leaving Imperial Dock, Leith. Vessel is seaworthy. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1234/21)
SANCTA BRIGIDA (Motor Boat).	Cancel my 1554/20. N.A.B. SANCTA BRIGIDA delayed by recurrence of defect. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1254/21)
VICTORIOUS.	VICTORIOUS has sustained following damage due to heavy weather.*(C. in C. H.F., 2358A/21) *Ship is seaworthy.

Shipping & Convoys.

E.C.87.	Proceeding via route P. (FOXTROT, 0040/21) Cancel my 0040. E.C.87 now proceeding via route "G". (FOXTROT, 0105/21) 2 ships of E.C. 87 proceeded route P unescorted. Pentland Race too much for escort COTILLION to get through. (FOXTROT 0430/21)

/Q.P.2.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Q.P.2.
P.Q.2.
P.Q.3.

(One) (1) Ships in Q.P.2 will load 7,000 tons chrome ore and 2,000 tons magnesite.
(2) Russians indicate possibility further supplies chrome ore, which would be very useful for putting ships propellers well down for ice protection. Please advise if Ministry of Supply intend negotiating further supplies for shipment this year. (Maclay, Archangel, 0915C/21)
Ice now forming on river but Russians consider too early to last. Do not anticipate escorts from P.Q.2 will have difficulty in proceeding up harbour. Escorts from P.Q.3 may have to use Murmansk or Iocheva.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0920C/21)

O.N.28.

Proceed forthwith to Loch Ewe and refuel.
In view of defects in VENOMOUS you are to take over temporary duties of S.O. first escort group escorting O.N.28.
Convoy documents are in SABRE.
(C. in C. W.A., 1324A/26 to WESTCOTT).

Destroyer Escort.

Your B21R/20. Confirm that destroyers referred to in A.M. 1248/19 are R.N.
It is proposed that destroyers at present escorting C.T. 4 should return to U.K. as escort for PASTEUR, EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW. (D.O.D. H., 1652A/21 to B.A.D. Washington)

Atlantic Convoys. Points for discussion.

A.M. 1755A/17. Request following items be included in agenda.
1. Fuelling at Azores.
2. Convoys escorted by U.S. Authorities:-
(A) Promulgation of situation reports for Western half of Atlantic.
(B) Are their escorts complying with procedure laid down in 573A Z?.
3. Daily U-boat signal desirability of promulgating in areas as for Western Approaches situation report.
4. Present rules for breaking W/T silence by independents require revision: lack of information by owners of expected time of arrival entails loss of shipping time (E.G. Colombo and Calcutta)
5. Vital importance of D/F Bearings obtained by D/F Guardships needs stressing to the latter and to Commodores.
6. Importance of M.C.S.O's at home and overseas informing escorts which merchant ships are available for D/F Guards and whether Commodore is fitted with R/T
7. Promulgation of new diversion orders in I.C.O.C.25 to all escorts in Western Approaches North Atlantic and South Atlantic commands and American and Canadian escorts.
8. Distribution of reports of interviews with survivors by casualty section to Cs. in C.

/concerned....

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Atlantic Convoys. Points for discussion. - Contd.

concerned.

9. Instructions in N.C.S.I. 251 to be stressed to N.C.S.O's at home and oversea.

10. Use of North Channels for inward and outward convoys as well as the Minches.

(C. in C. W.A., 2019A/21 to D.T.D.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. My 1827A/15.
1. Civil Aircraft sighted tanker in 44° 07' N., 10° 07' W., course 260°, speed 12 knots, at 1050/20. Possibly outward bound supply ship for raiders or U/Boats.
2. AAGTEKERK sighted unidentified ship at 1900/14 in 08° 30' N., 51° 30' W., course 282° 18 knots. Possibly U.S. BRAZIL.
3. Nothing to confirm WARRIOR as raider casualty Probably sunk by U-boat vicinity St. Pauls Rock.
4. PACIFIC now seriously overdue Colombo
5. POLYPHEMUS overdue Balboa since 14/10 from Auckland. Possibly attacked about 26/9.
6. D/F at 1443Z/20 of unit within 300 miles of 30°S., 122°W. Equally likely raider or supply ship. (D.D.I.C., 2342/21 to Cs. in C. etc).

North Atlantic.

ANTWERP, MALINES, BRIGAND. C. in C. S.A.'s 2057N/19 not to Admiralty. Please instruct ANTWERP, MALINES Fleet Tug BRIGAND to pass position 027° 00' N., 025° 30'W. Then as ordered. (F.O.C.N.A., 0950A/21 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

O.24 F.O.C.N.A., 1010A/21. See Med.

SURVILLE (French). Departure 20th for Albufeira to complete loading Cargo Beans and Fish meal.
(R.O. Oporto, 1129/21, to M.E.W., 1017/21 to D. of S.T.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 0845/21. French minesweeper LA GRACIEUSE French ships ASTREE, NANCEEN, STRASBOURGEOIS, DAHOMEY all laden eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1703A/21 to Admty C. in C. Med).

/Motor.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Motor Launches.

A.T.1943/8. Out of 15 Motor Launches at Gibraltar it has only proved possible to maintain nine and sometimes ten serviceable. Main causes of unserviceability are continual engine defects owing to unsuitable design, lack of spares, absence of base repair staff and shortage of skilled labour in Dockyard.
2. Fixed beam oscillators and limited Asdic endurance make them inefficient A/S craft. Hunting and attacking is matter of difficulty in perfect weather and in any seaway is impossible owing to yaw of boat.
3. They have been used chiefly as local patrols, where they are of great value solely as surface lookouts. They are good seaboats but owing to light construction decks leak badly as unseasoned timber of which they are made is too light to hold caulking.
4. Consider their usefulness is limited and their maintenance requires large skilled staff additional to crew. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/21 to Admty).

French Ships.

Gibraltar 21/10 1130 survey ship SENTINELLE armed trawler BISSON, OUED TIFLET, ILE ROUSSE, THISBE, JOSEPH ELISE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN light SCHIAFFINO FRERES light deck cargo of cork westbound.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 2357A/21).

South Atlantic.

WILD SWAN.

F.O.C.N.A's 1220/20 (22010/13 intended)P.4. I hope this will not be necessary. My 2019/13 refers.
(C. in C. S.A., 1126N/21 to Admty).

DOMINE.

Your 1632/20, not to C. in C. S.A., German and Italian passengers have been removed from DOMINE and taken to Takoradi.
(D.E.W.D., 1133A/21 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Service.....

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Service Personnel. A.M.1855/20, Para 6. Delete words "When approaching Freetown." (D.O.D. (F), 1251A/21 to C. in C. S.A.)

Corvettes. Your 1321/19. Admty 1955/20.
Consider corvettes should show themselves on Bahia - Pernambuco route on passage to Freetown. If time permits visit to one of these ports desirable but could not be arranged before 27th. They could fuel Pernambuco should this suit your plans.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1309Z/21 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 1321N/19 and Admty 1955A/20, neither to LAVENDER or BERGAMOT. Request you sail LAVENDER and BERGAMOT for Freetown as soon as convenient, routed through position (a) 004° S., 031° W., (b) 002° N., 031° W., thence direct to Freetown. Ships are to be spread in Fernando De Noronha - St. Paul's rock area to search for possible enemy supply ships and U-boats.
(C. in C. S.A., 1355N/21 to R.A.S.A.D.)

B.D.Vs. for E. Indies. Departure 1200/21 B.D.Vs. BARSTOKE, BARONIA, BARBOUR, CONSBRO East Indies Station. Secret position "LUPIN" 009° 10' N., 013° 15' W.
E.T.A. Freetown 0800/24.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1331N/21 to C. in C. S.A.)

Distress Message. Following reading Jacobs W/T station at 1515/21 (begins) Distress seem position bearing from H 246° 345 miles 20/10 T.O.O. 2223G.M.T., Master, OLIVIA (ends).
(2) Ship failing to clear (corrupt group) subsequently broadcast.
(3) Position H is 003° N., 060° E.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1633Z/21 to Admty etc).

WARRIOR. American, 1451 tons, overdue at Capetown since 2/10 and presumed lost. (D.S. 777, 21 /10)

Signals. My 0235N/21 (N.T. in W.D.) Details of signals intercepted by VIMY. (C. in C. S.A., 1655N/21 to Admty).

/Shipping.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Shipping Diversions.

A.M.1150A/10. Following instructions are to come into force at 0001G.M.T. on 23/10.
"Admiralty will divert all ships sailing independently in North and South Atlantic to avoid known or suspected dangers, with following exceptions:-
1. C. in C. S.A. within the limits of his Command, will divert such ships bound to and from West African ports.
2. F.O.C.N.A., within the limits of his Command, will divert such ships bound to and from Gibraltar.
3. C. in C. S.A., and F.O.C.N.A., will when necessary divert ships bound for West African ports and Gibraltar respectively, whilst still in C. in C. A.W.I. Command, keeping the latter informed."
A.M. 0001/1/5 will be amended accordingly.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1714A/21 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. A.W.I.)

W.S.12.

Proposals for transhipment in South Africa.
(D.S.T., 1809A/21) See Lion Copy.

S.L.91.

W.R. your 2303A/16 and C. in C. W.A. 1122A/17 Request confirmation S.L. 91 should sail on 27/10. In view of conflicting signals and date of R/V for Vinegar clarification required.
(N.C.S.O., Freetown, 2111N/21 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

Black Sea.

Following received N.L.O. Black Sea.
Evacuation of Odessa very successfully carried out. Fleet employed on convoy and evacuation also occasional support of 9th Army near Taganrog. T.O.O. 1804/20.
(C. in C. Med., 0223B/21 to Admty).

/Turco-German...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.10.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

Turco-German Agreement.

Following addressed Mideast received from Britmilat, Ankara, No. 09820 T.O.O. 2309/18 Germans agreed to give following War Material under Commercial Agreement just signed. Includes:- 2 Submarine Engines, Diesel. 4 Periscopes and other unspecified material. (Mideast, Cairo, 0645/21 to Admty).

AURORA, PENELOPE, Force K.

Arrival 21st, AURORA, PENELOPE, LIVELY, LANCE, UNIQUE. (V.A. Malta, 0915A/21 to Admty).
AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE and LIVELY known as Force K are to be administered and operated by V.A. Malta while based at Malta. Copies of reports from the cruisers on subjects common to other cruisers of the class are to be sent to C.S.15. Similar reports from the destroyers are to be sent to R.A.(D) Med.
(C. in C. Med., 1911B/21 to V.A. Malta).

U/B

P.C. and S. U-boat sighted 0600B/21, 035° 40' 020° 56', 160° 12 knots. Enemy has lately increased his S/M patrol on North French African coast. (Capt. S.1., 0941B/21 to TALISMAN, PORPOISE).

Operations by 0.24

0.24 reports unsuccessful attack on escorted southbound 5,000 ton tanker in 41° 35' 12° 19' at 1745A/13. Ineffective light counter attack. Heavy southbound rail traffic observed along Italian coast. At end of raid party of one Army Officer and one private landed by Folbot in 044° 12' (?25") N., 009° 33' E., at 2200/17. 0.24 remained position for 4½ hours but raiding party failed to return. Nothing seen or heard to indicate their fate.
Very little shipping seen during patrol either on Sardinian or Italian coast.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1010A/21 to C. in C. Med).

Handling AQUITANIA at Capetown.

Your 1846B/20 (1746/20 intended). Deepest loaded draught when fully bunkered and watered 36. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1020B/21 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/Soviet.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Soviet ships from Black Sea.

Admty 1238/10, N.A. Angora's 1237/11 and your telegram of 14/10. Following received from C. in C. Med., (quotes 1327/13)
Approved to proceed as proposed by Adm. Kelly and C. in C. Med. Request you complete arrangements as soon as practicable with Soviet and report details at once to C. in C. Med., and Admty who will pass to N.A. Angora.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1111A/21 to Adm. Miles).

Benghazi.

Night 19/20 Oct. 3 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour. Results awaited.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1156/21).

U/Bs.

Submarines sighted by aircraft. One diving on course 110° in 035° 10' 011° 42' at 0820A. One on surface on course 360° in 037° 00' 015° 25' at 1005A. (Capt. S.10 1232A/21 to URGE UPHOLDER UNBEATEN).

Surveying Ship.

The amount of hydrographic work in Eastern Med., and Red Sea now justifies the employment of a surveying ship. At moment (ARPHA) is employed on this duty with 2 survey officers but ship is not entirely suitable and is required for other services. Request consideration may be given to sending a survey ship which must have adequate A.A. armament.
(C. in C. Med., 1321B/21 to Admty)

GNAT.

GNAT torpedoed by U-boat at 0445/21 in 032° 06' N., 025° 30' E., while returning from Tobruk. Ship immobilised but still afloat with bows blown away. GRIFFIN and JAGUAR in company endeavouring to tow. (C. in C. Med., 1701B/21 to Admty).

PERSEUS, THRASHER.

Request you will sail PERSEUS P.M./25 to operate in Area C (West) South of 032° 45' and west of 017° 30'. THRASHER will be ordered to operate east of 017° 30' after 2359B/27 until ordered to leave Area for Malta about 6/11. PERSEUS will then take over whole of Area C. until ordered to Alexandria, leaving probably P.M./10 to arrive A.M./14.
(Capt. S.1., 1923B/21 to Capt. S.10)

/HANS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

HANS SCHMIDT, German.	Arrival 21/10. (Cartagena T.H.I. 1930/21 to D. of S.T.)
REGENT, destroyers attacked.	4 destroyers entered principal port at 1430B/21 by 311° swept channel, fired 6 torpedoes, all misses. (REGENT, 2015B/21 to C. in C. Med).
Mined Area.	Area dangerous due to mines following limits: 320° 2.9 330° 3.6 285° 11.8 289° 12.2, red conical buoy position 290° 5.8 all bearings and distances in miles from Northern Breakwater Light. (?) 0200/17 convoy passes through P.C. and S. 032° 59" (?59') 020° 05', 120, 8. Constant air patrol, slight surface activity. (REGENT, 2036B/21 to Capt. S.1) Area H following limits 320° 2.9 330° 3.6 285° 11.8 289° 12.2, red conical buoy position -290° 5.8 all bearings and distances in miles from Northern-most breakwater Cape Coast Castle. 0200/17 convoy passing through P.C. and S. 032° 59" 020° 05' 120, S. Constant air patrol slight surface activity. (REGENT, 2036B/21 to Capt. S.1).
PORPOISE.	After passing through 035° 20' 014° 14' and 034° 14' 020° 56' proceeding through 033° 50' 025° 53' and 032° 32' 028° 44' to arrive searched channel 0800B/26. (Capt. S.1. 2215B/21 to PORPOISE).
THRASHER.	Your 1701B/21, not to REGENT (N.T. in W.D.) THRASHER was sailed with despatch 3 hours early to attempt interception of unit referred to in my 1520A/20 to REGENT. As no E.T.A. has been received from her indicating expenditure of torpedoes, anticipate THRASHER crosses 032° 45' at 0001A/23. Orders for THRASHER were as in my 1529A/20 to TETRARCH. (Capt. S.5., 2220A/21 to Capt. S.1.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Red Sea Force.

Ships addressed are to form part of Red Sea Force under orders from F.O.C. Red Sea Force as from today 21/10.
(C. in C. E.I., 1152Z/21 to FALMOUTH, RATNAGIRI, SHOREHAM, BATHURST, INDUS, LISMORE, NETRAVATI.)

MAURITIUS W.S. 11.

MAURITIUS now escort for convoy W.S. 11 should arrive from vicinity Ceylon 29/10 to Singapore preparatory to being taken in hand for refit.
(C. in C. E.I., 1310Z/21 to C. in C. China.)

Diego Garcia.

Your 0544Z/10. Concur generally with your proposals. As regards:-
A. In view of limited resources, it is not considered provision of further guns would be justified.
C. Navigation difficulties render entrance by submarine highly improbable. B. 2. indicator nets will be supplied if desired for laying from boats.
F. As provision of D.E.L's would involve many extra stores and maintenance personnel, and in view of navigational difficulty of finding the entrance at night, it is not proposed to supply these, subject to your further remarks.
1. Para 3. Mauritian troops will be provided and are expected to be ready in February, 1942.
(A.C.N.S., (F) 1348A/21 to C. in C. E.I.)

Kerguelen

Following information is available.
(D.D.I.C., 1755A/21 to C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

China

French Ships.

Arrival 20/10. BOUGAINVILLE, GOUVERNEUR GENERAL ALEXANDRE VARENNE.
(Saigon, 0751Z/21 to D. of S.T.)

/Vichy.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China-Contd.

Vichy Interference.

Chungking tel. (?543) to F.O. I fully concur we should prepare retaliatory measures for use in the event of further Vichy interference.
I have consulted with Governor Straits Settlements who agrees in principle but does not consider there are any Vichy French in Singapore against whom such measures could be taken.
Governor Hong Kong will doubtless not overlook Commander Henry's remarks.
(C. in C. China, 0901Z/21 to Admty.)

F.E.W. 53.

Japanese Navy now on a war footing.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 1013Z/21 to Admty.)

Free French Movement.

Proposing that duty of sponsoring the movement in F.E. be transferred from him to some political authority.
(C. in C. China, 1025Z/21) See Lion Copy.

Eastern Fleet.

Re appointment of Ad. Sir Tom Phillips, C. in C. Eastern Fleet, with flag in PRINCE OF WALES.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1648A/21 to C. in C's) See Home Commands, Movements.

BERNARDIN DE ST. PIERRE

Arrival. (Shanghai, 2352Z/21.)

America & West Indies

WORCESTERSHIRE

Your 1022Q/20. It is confirmed that WORCESTERSHIRE is to be sailed for U.K.
(D.O.D. (F) 1154A/21 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

LORRAINE

S.O. (I) Jamaica's 1104R/19. U.S. Naval Aircraft reported French SS LORRAINE at 1359Q/5 in 30.58 N., 63.48 W., course 078° 12 knots.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1203Q/21 to Admty.)

/Pacific.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

Pacific Routeing.

Your 1555R/16/8. and A.M. 1926/23/8. When final agreement has been reached with U.S. Authorities request you will promulgate it to Admiralty, C. in C. China, A.C.N.B. and N.Z. N.B. (D.T.D. 1349A/21 to B.A.D.)

VANCOUVER ISLAND. (Torpedoed 15/10.)

Opnav's 2345Z/15. Request all possible information re survivors as majority of crew are Canadian.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1517Z/21 to Admty.)

Corvettes, Refits.

Your 1101A/19. C.C.N.F. Advises (begins)
(A) Ref. para 2. MAYFLOWER and EYEBRIGHT detailed
(B) Ref. para 1. Four of ten R.C.N. manned "FLOWERS" are already refitting in Canada, viz., TRILLIUM, FENNEL, HEPATICA, SPIKENARD.
WINDFLOWER has completed. Of the three remaining ARROWHEAD and SNOWBERRY are now overdue for refit and leave and cannot wait their turn to go to Charleston. It was intended to refit them in Canadian Ports mid-November on completion Corvettes now under refit. BITTERSWEET is due for refit in January. (Ends.) Request concurrence. Propose Free French Corvettes now with N.F.L.D. Forces be refitted in U.S.A. Request decision.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1559Z/21 to Admty.)

DIDO

Ref. Admty. 1732A/10. Navy Dept. has been informed that DIDO will not be available to Augment escort of troops convoy owing to extra time required for dockyard work.
(B.A.D., 1723R/21 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

H.X. 156

H.X. 156 ocean escorts BENSON (?SOP), NIBLACK, H.P. JONES, RUBBEN JAMES, TARBELL.
(Opnav, 1907/21 to Admty.)

Salvage Red Sea.

Following from B.A.S.R. for Salvage Dept. Ref. Lonus 41 para 3. U.S. Navy are sending salvage officer by air from Honolulu. They request any available information by cable concerning ships sunk in Red Sea area that will be of value in planning salvage operation. U.S. Navy particularly ask for information about Massawa. Request information as to amount of salvage gear available in Red Sea and possibility of obtaining native labour conversant with work of this type and names of reliable labour contractors.
(B.A.D., 1917R/21 to Admty.)

/T.C. 15.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

T.C. 15. — Admty. 1913A/16. To ensure maintaining dates for transhipment and sailing request early decision re storing of ships in T.C. 15. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2033Z/21 to D. of S.T.)

BARFLEUR (French) — Leaves Martinique 22/10, for French Guiana and will return about 1/11. (U.S,C.N.O. 2108Z/21 to Admty.)

U.S. Movements. — My 2128/30/9. CONCORD departed Balboa 0800/20. same track and elapsed time between points as for TRENTON, arriving Callao 0800/31, departing 3/11, passing Galapagos 8/11, arriving Balboa 0800/11. Two D.Ds. of Panama naval coastal frontier continue patrolling area vicinity Galapagos to Panama. (Opnav, 2120Z/21 to Admty. etc.)

EMPIRE ELAND. — British, 5613 tons, overdue at Mobile since 2/10 and presumed lost. (D.S. 777, 21/10.)

New Zealand

Your 1620N/17. Amended programme approved. 2. A.T. 1412A/15. Is it proposed to delete visit to Auckland and maintain remainder of programme? If not request your revised proposals. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2223A/21 to LE TRIOMPHANT)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

GNAT

Torpedoed at 0445/21 returning from Tobruk.
(C. in C. Med., 1701B/21) See Mediterranean.

AURANIA

Following has been read. My position now is 050° 45' N., 018° 48' W.
(AURANIA, 0205/21.)
Following has been read. AURANIA struck by torpedo on port side amidships probably able proceed 10 knots 050° 50' N., 019° W.
(WOLFE, 0240Z/21.)
Torpedoed in 050° 45' N., 018° 48' W. Proceeding (? course) 062° steering 12 knots.
(AURANIA, 0301Z/21 to Admty. etc.)
My 0240Z, TOTLAND standing by.
(WOLFE, 0324Z/21 to Admty.)
Sail ABERDEEN as escort to ZWARTE ZEE proceeding to assistance of AURANIA torpedoed in 050° 50' N., 018° 48' W. at 0200A/21 probably proceeding 062° 10 knots. (C. in C. W.A., 0546A/21 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
Expect Catalina aircraft escort about 1100A/21
(C. in C. W.A., 0550A/21 to AURANIA, TOTLAND)
On arrival of ABERDEEN at Moville you are to proceed escorted by her and with despatch to assistance of AURANIA torpedoed in 50° 50' N., 18° 48' W. At 0200 today. AURANIA is probably proceeding under her own steam steering 062° at 10 knots. TOTLAND standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0605A/21 to ZWARTE ZEE)
My 0605A/21 amend position to 050° 45' N., 018° 48' W. AURANIA proceeding at 12 knots.
(N.O.I.C., Greenock, 0859A/21 to ZWARTE ZEE)
My 0546A/21. Tug will not be sailed unless assistance is requested.
(C. in C. W.A., 1020A/21 to AURANIA, TOTLAND)

LEHIGH
(Torpedoed 19/10.)

My 2100N/20. 2 other boats with Master and 3 wounded probably further South, steering E. Ship torpedoed without warning abreast No. 5 hatch starboard. In ballast Arica to Takoradi for ore. (VIMY, 0300N/21 to C. in C., S.A.)
(D.C., 1420Z/21 to Opnav.)
U.S.A. Ship LEHIGH was torpedoed in 08° 26' N., 14° 37' W. 0900/19. VIMY picked up one boat of survivors at 2100N/20. Two other boats missing being searched for. Understand no one killed by explosion but some wounded.
(C. in C. S.A., 0929N/21, to Admty.)
Following received from VIMY. (Quotes 2100N/20)
(D.C., 1223Z/21 to Opnav.)

/My 0929N/21....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

LEHIGH (Torpedoed 19/10) -Contd.	My 0929N/21. Whole crew of LEHIGH picked up. 22 taken to Bathurst on VIMY and 22 brought to Freetown. Bathurst survivors believed uninjured, Freetown survivors uninjured except(2,1 serious) (C. in C. S.A., 2132N/21 to Admty.)
S.C. 48 GLADIOLUS	My 2231A/18. Am now in anxiety over GLADIOLUS. After interrogation of escorts due tomorrow Wednesday a further signal will be made. (C. in C. W.A., 1449A/21 to Admty.) Enquiries from COLUMBIA produced following information about GLADIOLUS. WETASKIWIN was in definite communication with GLADIOLUS at 1930Z/16. At 2200Z/16 WETASKIWIN received signal purporting to be from GLADIOLUS asking for signal on 325 kc/s presumably for D/F purposes. WETASKIWIN doubted authenticity of this signal and asked for identification. Thenceforth no further signals were received from GLADIOLUS by WETASKIWIN or by other escorts who tried to obtain communication with her. COLUMBIA considers GLADIOLUS may have been torpedoed but has no evidence. (A.C.I.C., 1646/21 to C. in C. W.A.) Attack on convoy has taken place. (WELLINGTON, 2000Z/21 to C. in C. W.A.)
BRITISH MARINER. (Torpedoed 20/10.)	BRITISH MARINER now in tow being brought to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 2136N/21 to Admty.)
INVERLEE (Topedoed 19/10.)	Your 1728A/20. INVERLEE was escorted by LADY HOGARTH and (?STELLA CARINA) and in addition Catalina air escort during daylight hours. (ii) A/S sweep by 37th Escort Group and 3 destroyers in Western Approaches to Gibraltar Strait on 17th (? 18th) and 19th with Catalina co-operating. (iii) Use of territorial waters limited by French reaction to any ship within 20 miles of their coast also extremely probable they are used by U-Boats when charging batteries, who would not hesitate to attack. (F.O.C.N.A., 2240A/21, to Admty.)

/Unknown Ship....

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked-Contd.

Unknown Ship. Following received:- Intercept at 2127 G.M.T. unknown station strength of signal 2/3 begins:- (un-read) Attacked port side torpedo missed D.E. 812 (Remainder jammed). At 2129 G.M.T. same station sends still attacked port side. (Ends) Unable obtain any further particulars. No broadcast made, should this be done? (Scapa W/T, 2241/21 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0600B Capt. S. 1., 0941B/21, See Mediterranean.

0820A
1005A Capt. S. 10.,1232A/21, See Mediterranean.

2310Z/20. By D/F at 2310Z/20. U-Boat is approx. 50° 30' N. 21° W. May have reported Convoy S.L. 89. (D.D.I.C., 0146A/21 to Escorts S.L. 89, WOLFE, AURANIA)

0310Z Ref. Admty. Message AF. Position 50° 50' N., 19° W. at 0310Z/21. (D.D.I.C., 0350Z/21 to G.B.M.S. Area 1.)

0920 Following reported from Portreath. Periscope sighted 295° Portreath 2000 yards course S.W. at 0920/21. Consider report grade C. 3. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1121/21)

Estimated U-Boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1412A/21)

1424 G.M.T. At 1424/21 G.M.T. a U-Boat made a sighting report. Possibly reporting S.L. 89. (D.D.I.C. 1634A/21 to Escort S.L. 89)

1755
1810 Following bearings of U-Boat obtained at 1755/21 and 1810/21 G.M.T. Position to westward of Gibraltar, probably 07° 00' W., - 09° 00' W. (D.D.I.C. 1941A/21)

/Possible...

MOST SECRET

War Diary

21.10.1941.
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported -Contd.

Possible U-Boat operating with Trawlers.

50° 51' N., 10° 16' W. KRAKOWIAK, KUJAWIAK to search. (C. in C. Plymouth 1944/21, 2033/21, F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 2356/21) See Operations.

U-Boat situation 21/10.
(U.S.C.N.O., 2038/21)

2200C

Bearing by D/F at 2200C/21 Position of enemy U-Boat was 069° 05' 042° 40' Reliable fix Admiralty pass to NORMAN. (S.B.N.O., N. Russia 2316C/21.)

Submarines Attacked

By A/C 1458Z

One submarine bearing 090° distance 7 miles, course unknown, my position. 51.05 N., 19.55 W. (WELLINGTON, 1458Z/21.)
My 1458Z/ S/M has dived after attack by aircraft. (WELLINGTON, 1515Z/21 to Admty.)

By A/C 1830.

Am over enemy submarine in 50.58 N., 20.06 W. Submarine previously reported has now submerged, course 033° speed 6 knots.
(A/C A., 1610/21 to 15 Group.)
My 1610. Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charges, estimate one hit.
(A/C duty A., 1830/21 to 15 Group.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

SUFFOLK, IMPULSIVE and ESCAPADE last night carried out an operation in Svaerholthavet. Nothing was sighted.

British Air Operations

95 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Bremen last night.

Eight Hudsons of Coastal Command attacked the petrol harbour of Aarhus in Jutland last night. Six Hudsons attacked PRINZ EUGEN at Brest and 3 Beauforts Lorient.

Enemy Air Operations

Swedish tanker CAPELLA was unsuccessfully bombed at 1031 today in Nobrasco Fiord, Faeroes.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operation Q.K. (3). — M.L's from Harwich carried out a minelaying operation off the French coast last night, supported by M.G.B's.

Operation S.N. 24 C. — PORT QUEBEC and NEWARK carried out a minelaying operation west of the Hebrides in the early hours of this morning.

Operation H.G. — WELSHMAN and MANXMAN last night carried out a minelaying operation off Belle Isle.

Kiel. — Aircraft of Bomber Command laid 12 mines in Kiel harbour last night.

Tyne Area. — Enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying in the Tyne area last night.

North Atlantic.

Rescue tug SALVONIA is to revert to merchant status, whilst retaining her defensive armament, and is to be based at Azores or Funchal.

It appears from a signal from F.O.C.N.A. today that sailings from Lisbon, Huelva, Cadiz and Seville to Gibraltar were suspended on 19/10, presumably as the result of U-boats off Gibraltar and may be resumed today. Ships are to proceed inside territorial waters.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

DARKDALE sunk.

R.F.A. DARKDALE was sunk by explosion at 0015 today at St. Helena. The cause of the explosion is not known, but pending further evidence C. in C. S.A. is assuming it to be a U-boat and all shipping was therefore diverted well clear of St. Helena.

Suspicious Ship.

U.S.S. PATOKA sighted a suspicious vessel at 1500 today in 6° 44' S. 34° 26' W. 25 miles east of Natal. The ship disappeared in sun glare and smoke screen.

Mediterranean.

Yugoslavian revolt.

The Yugoslav authorities have made a further most pressing appeal for arms for their guerilla bands, which now number 80,000 to 100,000 men fighting in Yugoslavia. The Admiralty urge on C. in C. Med. the importance of doing anything which is in any way possible to help them.

Air raid on Naples.

24 Wellingtons from Malta attacked the storage depot at Naples last night; flames are reported up to 1000 ft. The railway station was set on -fire and great destruction is reported by 4000 lb. bombs.

Libya and Western Desert.

Captain D. with 3 destroyers bombarded the Bardia harbour area last night, the bombardment is reported to have been successful.

URGE reports that she has hit with torpedoes 2 ships off Kuriat.

3 Italian aircraft bombed shipping 10 miles N.E. of Damietta today, but caused no damage.

/Admiralty....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

Admiralty cable ship BULLFINCH was bombed and machine-gunned by two enemy aircraft a.m. today in 31° 38' N. 31° 58' E. but incurred only very slight damage and no casualties.

A Sunderland attacked an enemy S/M 50 miles N.E. of Aboukir this morning. Two 250 lb. bombs fell near the U-boat, but results were not observed. During the afternoon an aircraft sighted a very large patch of oil about 110 miles north of Alexandria.

U-boat Campaign.

It is reported that BROADWATER attacked and possibly destroyed a U-boat at about 0430/17 in 57° N. 24° W., but all records were lost when the ship was torpedoed.

S.L. 89 was shadowed today by 4 F.W. aircraft co-operating with U-boats, but no attack developed although 4 or 5 U-boats were near.

A Liberator A/C attacked a S/M 290 miles N.W. of Achill Head today and estimates one hit.

8

MOST SECRET.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A/S Trawlers for Arctic Service.

Your 2245/21. Completion ex trials storing and ammunitioning is 24/11/41.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0953A/22)
Admiralty 1902A/10. C. in C. H.F. 2245A/21.
Trawlers HUGH WALPOLE, CAPE ARGONA, STELLA CAPELLA refitting at Belfast for Arctic service will be completed ready to sail A.M.1/11/41.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1152A/22)

PRINCE CHARLES.

Should be made fit for service as soon as possible and sailed for Inverary.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1200A/22 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow)

PRINCESS ASTRID.

Should not be taken in hand for refit until relieved by PRINCESS JOSEPHINE CHARLOTTE about the end of November.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1210A/22)

Corvette for N.A.Command.

C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for the early transfer of a tropically fitted corvette to the North Atlantic Command to replace FLEUR DE LYS.
(V.C.N.S. 1435A/22)

EAGLE.

A.M.1944A/21. Extensive action repairs to other aircraft carriers combined with heavy demands for these ships at the present time make it essential to prepare EAGLE for sea at the earliest possible date.
2. It is therefore necessary to curtail the leave which it was intended to grant to your ship's company.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1849A/22 to EAGLE)

D.A.S.W. Sub-Committee Meeting.

Admiralty's 1423A/16. Request following items may be included in Agenda:-
1. Promulgation of full information about Whales including photographs.
2. Winter employment of fighter catapult ships.
3. Consideration of attack on convoy by torpedo carrying A/C bearing in mind limited range of merchant ship A/A armament.
(C. in C. W.A. 1928A/22 to D.A.S.W.)

/PETUNIA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy - contd.

PETUNIA. Your 1605A/22. May PETUNIA now be released for escort duty in Western Approaches.
(C. in C. W.A. 1937A/22 to Adty.)

PRINCE OF WALES. PRINCE OF WALES, wearing the flag of Admiral Sir Tom Phillips, C. in C. Eastern Fleet designate, will leave the U.K. shortly for Singapore via the Cape.
2. Request you will inform C.N.O.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1952A/22 to B.A.D. Washington)

Torpedoes for North Russia. To ensure stock of torpedoes and avoid further possible delays to S/Ms proceeding to patrol, consider that (?further) 24 torpedoes should be shipped forthwith. Torpedoes from (?convoy) P.Q.one have not yet arrived from Archangel.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2015C/22 to F.O.S.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Responsibility for Stahdard Procedure. Your 1633A/21 most helpful.
2. Request you will make arrangements in paragraph 4 with Bevan.
3. Please use normal book cyphers again.
(Ad. Miles 1216D/22 to Adty.)
A.M.1633/21. Message has been received from Admiral Miles requesting S.B.N.O. North Russia to become responsible for procedure laid down in para.3 of A.M.1859/30 August.
(D.O.D. H. 1751A/22 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Russian Loading and Liaison Officers. Your 1220C/14. This is approved. Please wire names. Are these three to be in addition to Captain Morozovski and Chekin who are already in this country ?
Admiral Kharlamov has been asked if Soviet Naval Transport Officers can be appointed as Liaison Officers to the convoys proceeding to and from Archangel. Such Soviet Officers to be in addition to the Soviet Officers at the ports of loading.
(A.C.N.S. T. 1420A/22)

/T.U.C. ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia - contd.

T.U.C. delegation is here and probably flies to Archangel tomorrow to embark in NORMAN.
2. Pass to S.N.O. Archangel.
(Ad. Miles 1517D/22 to Adty.)
My 1517D/22. Delegation leaving here Friday.
2. Pass to S.B.N.O. Archangel.
(Ad. Miles 2301D/22 to Adty.)

Russian Personnel for U.K.

(1) Kouznetsov and party of 5 other men are to be given permits for (corrupt group) passage to U.K. in NORMAN.
(2) Ouspenskaia and another woman are to go in Q.P.2.
(3) These 8 persons have been ordered to make touch with you.
(Ad. Miles 1936D/22 to Adty. for S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

Movements.

O.9. At 2000A/23 intend to sail Netherlands S/M O 9 escorted from Rothesay to Londonderry to arrive Lough Foyle 0800A/24A. N.O.i/c. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. No Liaison Officer. (Capt. S.7 1044A/22)

EAGLE. A.M.1944A/21. You should arrive at Bar Light vessel at noon 31st where pilot and two tugs will meet you two more tugs will meet you at Rock Light. Berth at Princes Stage for the night and keep steam. You will be required to leave the Stage at 0845/1 and proceed to Gladstone Dock. Six Tugs will be sent to assist you. Speed in Searched Channel must not exceed 9 knots.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1128A/22 to EAGLE)

P.36
SEAWOLF. (i) Intend to sail P.36 escorted by CUTTY SARK at 1800A/24 for 342°. Bishop Rock 7 miles, E.T.A. 2000A/26.
(ii) Thence CUTTY SARK to R/V with SEAWOLF in 180° Lizard Head 5 miles at 0715A/27 and escort her to Scapa, E.T.A. 0900A/31.
(iii) Thence P.36 dived by day through 50° N. 15° W. to patrol in Area enclosed by latitudes 50° and 51° N. and Longitudes 015° and 017° W.
(iv) P.36 will leave patrol area after dark on 2/11 November and proceed as ordered by Capt. (S) 5th. (Capt. S.5. 1411A/22)

/H.31 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

H.31. Sheerness departure H.31 at 1232 escorted by COTTESMORE to Dungeness.
(C. in C. Nore 1524A/22)

A.F.D.14. My 1330/21. Postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1616/22)

AURANIA. Acknowledge E.T.A. 1400/23. Request Tug and Pilot. (AURANIA 1712A/22 to N.O.I.C. Greenock)

4th M/S Flotilla. Arrival S.O.4th M/S Flotilla in FITZROY with LYDD, CAPE NYEMETZKY, and CAVA and ELGIN.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1855/22 and 2135A/23 to A.C.O.S)

RAMILLIES. RAMILLIES is to be ready to sail from Liverpool on 7/11. 2. Deck armouring is to be progressed as far as possible in the time available.
(Controller 1902A/22.)

BADSWORTH. Your 1853A/22. Unable to comply. Am proceeding fuel Moville. P.C.S. at 2000A, 054° 56' N. 010° 20' W., 069°, 14.
(BADSWORTH 2010A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

SALAMANDER.
HALCYON. Arrived Seidisfiord.
(A.C.I.C. 2125/22.)

Force G. 1. (a) C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail Force G. from the Clyde to Freetown when stores and personnel have been embarked, which will not be before p.m. 24th, and to provide one additional long endurance destroyer as A/S escort to the vicinity of the Azores.
(b) It is intended that ELECTRA and EXPRESS be detached to fuel at Ponta Delgada and that this additional destroyer should remain until they rejoin.
(c) She should then fuel at Ponta Delgada, subsequently returning to U.K. as requisite.
2. (a) F.O.C.N.A. is requested to detail one Fleet destroyer accompanying H.G.75 to break off as necessary and R/V with PRINCE OF WALES in 44° N. 27° W. at 1200 G.M.T./28th October.
(b) Destroyer detailed should remain with PRINCE OF WALES while ELECTRA and EXPRESS are absent fuelling at Ponta Delgada.
(c) When ELECTRA and EXPRESS have rejoined PRINCE OF WALES destroyer detailed should return to Gibraltar, fuelling at Ponta Delgada if necessary.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2256A/22)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Trawlers and possible S/M.

Proceed with KUJAWIAK at 20 knots toward 050° N. 010° 20' W. where (?aircraft) is carrying out A/S patrol.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1038/22 to KRAKOWIAK)
Attention is called to 510 A Z 6th Sept. Shift Watch to read Broadcast B.N. at 2300/22 at which time C. in C. W.A. is requested to take these Destroyers under his orders.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1328/22 to KRAKOWIAK, etc.)

Operation in Svaerholthavet.

SUFFOLK reports operation completed. Nothing sighted. Enemy air reconnaissance active to 75° North, but no striking force.
(D.O.D. H. 2229A/22 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Catalina S.209 on return flight to U.K. is to be routed along Portuguese Coast, outside territorial limit during dark hours, for R/C of shipping to arrive Finisterre at dawn thence along Northern coast of Spain to 007° W. and thence to base.
(H.Q.C.C. 1040/22 to 20 Group.)
P.R.U. Oslo in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1133/22)

Special Recognition Flares. (Operation "Newton")

1. Final trials of a new type of flare to be used by Naval vessels for identification purposes between ships and aircraft will take place on 29/10 or on the first suitable day thereafter.
2. The flares will be ignited from a destroyer or corvette. The effect is to be observed from an A/C. Details.
(H.Q.16 Group to Bircham Newton)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy S.L.89.

Long range aircraft may be operating in your vicinity. Attack may be expected.
(D.D.I.C. 0957A/22 to Convoy Escorts.)

Dover bombed on 21/10.

Enemy aircraft dropped eight H.E. and some incendiary bombs in Dover at 1855 yesterday. One civilian killed and five seriously injured. Considerable damage to house property. No naval damage or casualties reported.
(V.A. Dover 1008A/22)

/CAPELLA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - contd.

CAPELLA attacked.

(Swedish) Attacked by single enemy A/C in Nobracso Fiord at 1031 today. 4 bombs dropped, no apparent damage.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1042A/22)

RASK (Norwegian) presumed sunk.

My 2054A/21. Approximate position and time of attack should be 52° 12' N. 6° 16½' W. at 1930A/19, not 1930A/20.
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1303A/22.)

Scapa.

At 1334 two gun sites identified E/aircraft over Flow at 20,000 feet, course E. Fighters failed to intercept. First plot received at 1344 when E/A was 54 miles E.S.E. of a buoy flying E. E/A would have seen into Flow.
(A.C.O.S. 1555/22.)

Lowestoft bombed.

South Lowestoft bombed at 2040A/22 by single aircraft. A - D. Nil.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 2150A/22.)

Mining.

Sweeps in Straits of Dover.

Sweeping carried out to 0800/22.
In Q Z S 190 by S.A. Trawlers one mine exploded at 2108/21 within circle one mile radius about position 050° South Foreland 3.6 miles. Explosions heard but not seen.
In Q Z S 191 by S.A. Trawlers negative result.
In Q Z S 238 Oropesa and S.A. search in progress.
Two acoustic mines detonated at 0850 in position 208° Dungeness 3.8 miles. Area is being reswept.
(V.A. Dover 1021A/22.)

Operation H.G.

Arrived 1000 MANXMAN and WELSHMAN.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1053/22.)

Forthcoming Operation.

Sailed 1816 WELSHMAN MANXMAN.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1850/22 to C. in C. Portsmouth)
My 1850. Add routed as follows to arrive outer end of QZS 189 at 0645/23.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2022/22.)
My 1850. E.T.A. point of arrival 0730.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2233/22 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

/Clyde ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.10.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

Clyde. River Clyde above Port Glasgow will be closed to navigation for a trial sweep between 0530 and 1130 tomorrow. No interference to normal traffic will result.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1127/22)

Bristol Channel. Exploded red mine at 0828/22 in 314° 2 miles 2.6 cables from Flatholm Light.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1144A/22 and 1440A/22)

Minefield completed if final test is correct.
(MANCHESTER CITY 1410/22 to D.T.M.)

S.N.24 C. Arrival PORT QUEBEC and NEWARK.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1720/22.)

Navigational.

Derelict. Aircraft reports sighting wreckage of timber ship floating bottom upwards with stern blown off almost completely submerged constituting a danger to navigation in 56° 50' N. 23° 30' W. at 1435/21.
(C. in C. W.A. 0021A/22)

Technical.

M/Vs as W/T Guards. A.M.1640A/6/9. It is the intention that merchant ships in convoy fitted with suitable apparatus may be used for W/T Guards on the following services. Details and instructions.
(Head of M. 0938A/22)

Anti-Oil Boiler Compounds. With regard to escorts for O.G. and H.G. convoys, it is necessary to extend period between boiler cleanings of corvettes beyond that laid down in art. 239 E.M. and it may be necessary to extend period still further during winter.
Trouble is being experienced with oil in boilers and it is strongly urged that early consideration be given to the use of boiler compounds for counteracting oil deposits on heating surfaces.
(C. in C. W.A. 1931A/22 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

POSEIDON.	Sailed 0330/22. Vessel unable to anchor. (N.O.I.C. Swansea 0346A/22)
ALDER (M/S Trawler) ashore.	ALDER ashore Cairnbulg Briggs 0200/22. Crew taken off by Fraserburgh Lifeboat. No casualties. Tug EMPIRE ASH instructed by GLEANER to investigate. ABEILLE IV will endeavour refloat ALDER high water p.m. today. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0357/22) ALDER heavily ashore on Boulders, half a cable West of Cairnbulg Beacon. 15 degrees list to Starboard. Bows on to beach. Wind N.W. 6-7, heavy surf. Prospects of salvage dependent on weather conditions next 48 hours. (Salvage Officer, Aberdeen 1031/22)
HARTINGTON (British, 5496 Tons)	Making second attempt to tow HARTINGTON from Lee Shore. Request tug be despatched forthwith. Position 214° Cape Wrath 10 miles. Close inshore. (MAZURKA 0601A/22) Second tow rope parted at 0650. HARTINGTON using both anchors in attempt to keep off lee shore. Position 215° Cape Wrath 8 miles. (MAZURKA 0715A/22) Sail FREEBOOTER to proceed with all despatch to assist HARTINGTON. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0715A/22 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.) Sailing FREEBOOTER. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0810A/22.) HARTINGTON (?holding) well to both anchor positions at entrance Loch Inchard. Standing by waiting for Tug. (MAZURKA 1031A/22) HARTINGTON in tow. HARTINGTON reports extensive repairs required. Am therefore proceeding Clyde unless otherwise ordered. (FREEBOOTER 1315/22.) Situation satisfactory. Proceeding at utmost speed to rejoin convoy. (MAZURKA 1401A/22)
CHERBOURGEOIS SEINE.	Rescue Tug CHERBOURGEOIS 5 immobilised till 2000/23, when temporary repairs will be completed. SEINE has sustained minor damage during towing operations. Ship apparently seaworthy but not considered advisable for SEINE to operate in heavy weather. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1231/22.)
AMAZON.	Clyde arrival with defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1549A/22.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

ALAUNIA. — A.M.1158/16. ALAUNIA can be taken in hand for fitting for tropical service at Southampton, on 27/10.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ALAUNIA for Southampton in company with WOLFE and MALOJA if adequate arrangements for escort can be made.
3. Alternatively ALAUNIA should be given priority of sailing.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1147A/22)

H.X.155 — Recommend convoy proceed at utmost speed during next 48 hours. (U.S. C.N.O. 1230/22.)

H.X.154.
PORT AUCKLAND. — My 1137A/22. Report forthwith time at which PORT AUCKLAND left for Oban.
(C. in C. W.A. 1254A/22 to Escorts.)
Your 1254A/22. 1245A/22.
(VETERAN 1353A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

CARMENNA. — A.M.2022A/20. CARMENNA will be manned by civilians (over age).
(N.O.I.C. North Shields 1254/22.)

P.Q.3.
Escort. — C.S.10 in KENYA, with 2 destroyers, is to provide ocean escort for convoy P.Q.3 and will be required to sail for Seidisfiord on about 29/10.
(C. in C. H.F. 1255A/22.)

P.W.D.54. — Arrived EMPIRE SPRING. PORTZIC towing MACADAM.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1302/22.)

P.Q.3.
P.Q.4. — 800 Polish Airmen now ready for passage to U.K. Request suitable ship may be included in P.Q.3 or P.Q.4.
(2) Since it takes about 3 weeks to assemble these men at Archangel, request early information of arrangements made.
(Ad. Miles 1526D/22 to Adty.)

/O.N.29 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

O.N.29.
P.Q.3.

Sailing of CAPE CORSO and TREKIEVE for O.N.29 and P.Q.3 is delayed.
2. It is intended that these two ships shall sail for Hvalfiord escorted by two trawlers of 73rd M.S.F. Remaining trawler of this group is to R/V with O.N. 29 as arranged.
3. R/V for CAPE CORSO and TREKIEVE and the two trawlers is 58° 08' N. 005° 43' W. at 0700/26.
4. A.C.O.S. is requested to detail and sail trawlers of 73rd M.S.F. as necessary.
5. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail CAPE CORSO and TREKIEVE as necessary.
6. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to arrange additional escort for ships for Iceland (C) breaking off from O.N.29.
7. A.C.I.C. is requested to delay sailing of P.Q.3 until CAPE CORSO, TREKIEVE and trawlers are ready.
(D.O.D. H. 1414A/22)

E.C.89

Will not arrive Sherringham before 0230 and 62 D. buoy before 1530 tomorrow if present weather continues. (VIMIERA 1626A/22)

O.N.28.

Ships for Gulf of St. Lawrence are not to use Belle Isle Strait but are to be detached at V. (C. in C. W.A. 1706A/22.)

C.E.51.

Convoy completed passage without incident. (C. in C. Nore 1735A/22.)

S.L.89.

C. in C. Plymouth 1242A/22. S.L.89 is steering for (D) 180° Fastnet Rock 10 miles and thence as in my 1518A/22.
(C. in C. W.A. 1747/22 to KRAKOWIAK)
Take KUJAWIAK and KRAKOWIAK under your orders on joining S.L.89.
(C. in C. W.A. 1847A/22 to VANQUISHER.)
Not met. Searched 30 miles back along course line then 10 miles to southwards. Now searching along course line Latitude 51° 16' Longitude 15° 20'. (VANQUISHER 2001A/22)

/Convoy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

Convoy.	Not met. In radio telephony communication. Convoy 30 miles (corrupt group) (corrupt group) me. (BEAGLE 1800A/22.)
O.N.28.	My 0900A. Repairs completed. Intend sailing 0930 to overtake O.N.28. (VENOMOUS 1839A/22)
East Coast Southbound Convoys.	Request escorts of Southbound convoys may be instructed not to pass B.8 buoy before 0930 until after 26/10. (C. in C. Nore 2325A/22 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Sailings to Gibraltar.

My 1530/19 / sailings to Gibraltar may be resumed but strict instructions are to be given to masters to proceed inside territorial waters including passage through Cabezos passage if possible. (F.O.C.N.A. 1204/22 to Consuls Lisbon, Huelva, Cadiz, Seville).
/ Not to Admiralty 1027A/23 from F.O.C.N.A. says this message is passed for information.

Convoy H.G. 75.

Departures ROCHESTER, ARIGUANI, LAMERTON, BLUEBELL, HELIOTROPE, CARNATION, CAMPION, MALLOW, LA MALOUINE, COMMANDANT DUBOC with H.G. 75. Local escort until prudent limit of endurance, COSSACK, LEGION, VIDETTE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1702A/22).

Rescue tug SALVONIA.

In view of present convoy routes there is urgent need for seagoing rescue tug to be stationed at Azores or Funchal. Only tugs suitable have recently been in commission. Proposed to return SALVONIA to her owners for management in order that she will revert to merchant status. SALVONIA will retain her defensive armament but her crew will be discharged from Naval Service and D.E.M.S. ratings would wear plain clothes in port. Request you will confirm there is no objection to basing SALVONIA at Azores or Funchal. (Hd. of M. 1237A/22 to N.A. Lisbon).

FRONST BRIAC, COETLOGON.

Arrival 22nd. (Barcelona 1253/22).

Patrol.

Situation 1959A HILARY patrolling H.X.3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1306A/22).

DOMINE.

Fernado Po 14/10 for Teneriffe or Las Palmas and probably Cadiz. First Class Spanish passenger Ursula De Armas suspected of carrying German (? Italian) mails. Search thoroughly baggage and quarters. (F.O.C.N.A. 1547A/22 to S & A., N.A)

/EUGENIO C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

EUGENIO C. — My 1913/21, Italian vessel referred to arrived Bilbao 22/10 date of departure and destination unknown.
2 German armed trawlers sighted from Bilbao Harbour 21/10 22/10 apparently on patrol.
(Bilbao (Graham) 1725/22 to Admty.)

Part of German torpedo recovered. — BLUEBELL recovered part German Torpedo in 510 Spartel Four. Is detailed report required.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1816/22 to Admty.)

A/C's for AUDACITY. — C. in C. W.A. 1834A/21 para 2.
1. Formation of new 802 Squadron will entail provision of additional accommodation, equipment and stores which are not available at Gibraltar.
2. Request proposed complement be signalled so that matter can be investigated. (F.O.C.N.A. 1852A/22 to Adty.)

Signalling. — Based on experience in "Gallboy" it is considered desirable delivery groups to be used on Gibraltar broadcast as follows.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1858A/22).

South Atlantic.

R.F.A. DARKDALE. — R.F.A. DARKDALE exploded spontaneously at 0015/22 turned over and sank in 5 minutes. There are 9 survivors of whom 2 were on board at the time. Names and details follow together with such evidence as can be obtained. (General St. Helena 0300/22 to Adty.)
Captain of DARKDALE was ashore and considers loss of vessel may be due to enemy action. Latter impossible to confirm until evidence has been examined. (General St. Helena 0345/22).

/Distress.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

Distress message.
My 1632/21. Amend para. 2 to read:-
(2) Ship failed to pass message by direct method on H/F. Message read Jacobs W/T Stn., from Ship's broadcast on H/F.
(N.O.I/C Simonstown 0459Z/22 to Adty., C. in C.E.I.)

Convoy W.S.12.
My 1249N/18 to DEVONSHIRE only. (N.T. in W.D.)
Fuel is not now available at St. Helena and U-boat suspected off that island. If fuel permits you should continue with convoy fuelling at Simonstown. If this not practicable you should fuel at Walvis Bay.
PRINCE BAUDOUIN has been ordered to reduce speed as necessary to proceed to Walvis Bay direct.
(C. in C.S.A., 0953N/22, to DEVONSHIRE.)

LAVENDER BERGAMOT.
Your 1309/21 approved.
(C. in C.S.A.1058N/22 to R.A.S.A.D.)
Visit to Pernambuco (A) LAVENDER and BERGAMOT (B) 1230 G.M.T./27 (C) 24 hours or till repairs complete (D) shore assistance to remetal one spare main crank head bearing (E) nil (F) 30 each I contractor to board. Please inform Consul Pernambuco.
(R.A.S.A.D., 2037Z/22 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)

Frequency for U.S. escort.
C. in C.S.A., 1125N/22 to B.A.D. Washington.

BIRMINGHAM.
Visit (a) R.A.S.A.D., in BIRMINGHAM (b) 1230 G.M.T./30. (c) 48 hours if Ambassador thinks desirable. (d) defects to main circulators (J) R.A.S.A.D., BIRMINGHAM, ARNMYO, ASTURIAS. Understand POTARO due 30/10 has mails. Corvettes proceeding to North with BROOMDALE have had engine defects. Possible S.O. may ask permission to visit Bahia or Pernambuco.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1203Z/22 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)

BALTAVIA.
Expect to complete discharge BALTAVIA by A.M./24, ship will be sailed same day for Freetown in accordance with your 1439N/23/9.
(N.O.I.C. Falkland Is.,1418Z/22 to C. in C.S.A.

/PANTEGLIS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

PANTEGLIS. South African. R.O.'s.	Admiralty 1152/18. Failure of R.O. to report PANTEGLIS was due to fact that R O had gone on leave without informing S.O.(I) since outbreak of war this was only the second time a vesca should have been made from Luderitz. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1737B/22.)
Troop movements.	Following appears to be position in regard to movement from South Africa to M.E., up to middle November. (D. of S.T. 1819A/22.)
U boat sightings.	Your 0235/20. The 3rd 6th and 8th reports were the only ones already received in Adty. Value of such reports would be much enhanced if they could be passed to us here as early as possible. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1907A/22 to C. in C.S.A.)
SEVERN.	Arrival 1610/22. Nothing to report. (NO.I.C. Freetown 2349N/22.)

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Raid on Naples 16/17 Oct.	Photographs. Bomb damage Naples caused night 16/17 Oct. Royal Arsenal 4 wings main building destroyed by fire. Small adjoining building burnt out. - Other buildings damaged. Torpedo factory 2 craters near S.E. corner. Buildings probably damaged by blast. No damage I.M.A. M. Factory or marshalling yards roundhouse roof damaged by blast.
S/M sighted 0720/21.	0720 1 submarine 29 miles N.E. Kerkennah course E.S.E. dived on aircrafts approach.
S/M sighted 0855/21.	0855 hours 1 submarine half mile east Syracuse heading Augusta 5 knots. 0720 hours 1 M/V 4000 tons 1 probable tanker 5000 tons N.E. Ras Maamours. (Cape Boh) north east course along coast 6/8 knots. 6 Blenheims despatched attack above M/V and tanker sighted and attacked 1210 hours 2 ships closer in shore 1 M/V 1500 tons 1 schooner 600 tons possibly carrying petrol 5 miles behind. Position 7 miles N.E. Ras Maamours heading north 5 knots. Total bombs dropped 6000 lbs.
French S.S. DIVONA (1630t) sunk.	Direct hits M/V schooner. Schooner blew up tremendous explosion sank 2 minutes. M/V left blazing amidships. Bridgework giving off column black smoke. M/V identified French DIVONA markings on reverse side to attacks. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta 0147/22.)
Raid on Naples 21/22/10.	24 Wellingtons attacked storage depot Naples 1917/21 to 0043/22. Total bombs dropped 38 tons. Incendiaries started fires in target area later increased by H.E. bombs to 1 enormous fire 400 yards square with flames up to 1,000 feet and smoke 12,000 feet visible 80 miles away. Squadron newly arrived from operations over Germany State biggest they have seen. Other smaller fires started round target area many buildings demolished railway station well on fire great destruction by 4,000 lb. bombs. Return journey started fires Catania Nicosia and centre Sicily. Opposition ineffective. (H.Q.,R.A.F., Malta, 0925/22.)
CAPO PINO.	Reported Italian S.S. CAPO PINO 5,000 tons sailed from Trieste for Istanbul about 10/10, Grade B2. (N.A.Istanbul 1307/22.)

/Assistance...

MOST SECRET.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

Assistance to Yugoslav Guerillas.

Following from C's of S., No. 186 to C's in C M.E., and Med.
1. Since the despatch of C's of S. No. 182 to which we have as yet received no reply, Yugoslav Authorities have made a further most pressing appeal for despatch of arms to their guerilla bands numbering from 80 to 100,000 men now fighting in Yugoslavia. Request is for 400 Bren Guns, 70 Trench Mortars, 100,000 hand grenades, revolvers, together with ammunition, medical stores for 10,000 wounded urgently required.
2. Transportation difficulties are realised, but we urge the importance of doing anything which is in any way possible for these people who are fighting for their lives.
3. Telegraph urgently what you propose and if we can help.
(See to 1st. S.L. 1357A/22 to C. in C.Med.)

TETRARCH.

TETRARCH is to proceed to U.K. calling at Gibraltar as necessary. Further instructions as to destination will be issued by Admiralty.
(Capt.(S) 1645B/22 to Capt.(S) 10.)

Orders for TRUANT TRUSTY THORN.

Cancel my 1731B/19. Operation B.S. Para. 19, bring into force Condition B. S/M's are to proceed as follows H.M.S. TRUANT to patrol in Adriatic in accordance with orders issued by Capt. S.10. TRUSTY to area P 037° 08' 020° 05' 340° 80 70 remain west of 019° 12' until 2200B/22. THORN to proceed Alexandria through following positions.
(a) 034° 30' 024° 12' (b) 034° 07' 026° 22'
(c) 033° 02' 028° 48'.
THORN endeavour to pass position 036° 18' 021° 28' and position (c) about noon 23rd and 26th respectively and adjust speed to arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0500B/27. PORPOISE is routed to Alexandria through positions 033° 50' 025° 53' and 032° 32' 028° 44' arriving A.M./26.
(Capt. (S) 1 1651B/22 to THORN, TRUANT, TRUSTY.)

VENDETTA.

Your 0241Z 20 not to Admiralty. VENDETTA is proceeding to Singapore to refit in accordance with Admiralty instructions.
(?C. in C. Med., 1716B/22 to C. in C. China.)

/URGE .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.10.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

URGE 2 ships hit. — Moving East. 2 ships hit off Kuriat. (URGE 1910A/22 to Capt. (S) 10.)

TYNEFIELD. — My 0927B/5 Canal Company are ready to proceed with cutting away and removal of stern of TYNEFIELD in co-operation with Fleet Salvage Officer. They await guarantee of indemnification in advance for cost of work. Engines are in stern portion and believed to be in good condition.
-N.O.I.C. pass to Fleet Salvage Officer.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1945B/22 to Adty.)

JUPITER. — Your 2029B/22. Position, Course and speed 031° 36' N., 029° 35' E., 180° 20 knots. Intend continuing. (JUPITER 2113B/22 to C. in C.Med., KANDAHAR.)

Air Operations. — 21/10. 6 Enemy raiders approached Island 1735 hours. Two crossed coast dropped bombs land and sea. No casualties or damage. 1141 hours approximately 12 raiders over Island great height. 4 Macchi 200's dived and machine gunned Ta Kal Aerodrome from 1,000 feet. 2 civilians and 1 airman very slightly wounded. No other damage. Damage to Tripoli recent raids. Many buildings especially Spanish Quay area damaged. Crater on road near Spanish Mole caused certain damage to surrounding buildings. Night Oct. 21/22. Six Blenheims high altitude attack barracks Homs. Total bombs dropped 4,780 lbs. Burst seen among buildings in target area.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta 2125/22.)

Soviet ships from Black Sea. — My 1111/21. H.M. Ambassador should be kept fully informed of all arrangements.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2132A/22 to N.A.Angora for Ad.Kelly.)

OTTO LEONHARDT. — Now loading iron ore and Aniseed expected sailing any time possibly direct possibly via Taragona for Genoa.
(Valencia 2145/22 to M. of W.T.)

Transports Malta to Gibraltar. — Following transports sailed 1000/22 for Gibraltar - EMPIRE GUILLEMOT no passengers or cargo has oil for 30 days steaming. Will require water and provisions. CITY OF LINCOLN passengers for U.K. no cargo. Has oil for 10 days, steaming will require oil and water. DUNEDIN STAR passengers all for U.K. Has Diesel Oil for 26 days steaming.
(D.S.T.O. Malta 2350A/22 to D. of S.T.,F.O.C.N.A.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

M.V. PACIFIC (Swedish)	(1) left Aden 20/9 for Calcutta. (2) A ship resembling her was reported off Cochin on 12/10 flying not under control signal. (3) Passing ships were informed and a Catalina Aircraft sent to search. PACIFIC has also been called by W/T. All without result. (4) Ship must be regarded as missing no corroborative evidence of raider. (C. in C. E.I., 0644Z/22 to Admty.)
LEONARDO DA VINCI.	My 1243/20. Ship arrived. (S.O. (I) Bombay 0846Z/22.)
POLYPHEMUS	A.M. 2342A/21. POLYPHEMUS arrived (D.D.I.C. 1134A/22)
AUSTRALIA	Colombo departure 1005Z/22 (1005Z/22) (S.O.(I) Colombo 1206Z/22.)

China

Contraband Control in event of War with Japan.	Cancel my 1956/13/4. In event of war with Japan compulsory Ship Navicert system will not be introduced in Pacific until after consultation and agreement with U.S. Govt. 2. For purposes of Contraband Control enemy territory will be whole Japanese Empire, Indo China and whole China coast excluding Macao and the International Settlement and French concession at Shanghai. 3. Ships bound for or carrying cargo consigned to enemy territory as defined in para 2 or to Thailand, Macao, the International Settlement or the French concession at Shanghai should be sent in to a British port for Contraband Control. 4. Philippines, N.E.I. and French Pacific Islands should be treated in the same way as Hong Kong, Sarawak, North Borneo and British Pacific Islands for which shipments should be allowed without restriction as to consignee or quantity provided circumstances do not suggest they will fall into Japanese hands, Pacific ports of U.S.S.R. will be left for decision at the time.

/5.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

Contraband Control in event of War with Japan. -Contd.

5. Enemy export control will only be exercised if and when reprisals order in Council is extended to Japan. Until that time ships found carrying goods of enemy origin are to be reported to Admty. at first opportunity giving details of such goods. Nothing in this alters instructions now in force regarding Vichy ships sailing from Indo-China to Madagascar.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2133A/22 to C. in C. China & E.I.)

America & West Indies

PASTEUR

Sailed U.K. 17/10 with following personnel on board.
(D. of S.T. 0746/22 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

S. & R. Class S/M's.

Your 1151A/11 addressed B.A.R.M. Spare gear for submarines is ready awaiting shipment as follows. Request instruction.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1031R/22 to Admty.)

PORT DARWIN

(British) ex O.N. 24. Destination Melbourne caught fire No. 5 hold 19/10. arrived St. Johns 21/10. Fire under control some damage to cargo slight damage to vessel.
(N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 1325Z/22 to Admty.)

ROSTHERN

N.O.I.C. Greenock 1826A/21 and C. in C. W.A. 1943A/21 not to all addressees. Request ROSTHERN may be sent to Tobermory to replace MOOSEJAW.
(C.C. Newfoundland, 1409Z/22.)

EMPIRE MORN
BRITISH INDUSTRY.

ex S.C. 50 arrived 21/10. Minor damage due to heavy weather.
(N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 1458Z/22.)

/HARDWICKE....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

HARDWICKE GRANGE. (9000 tons) Ran ashore Diamond Rock Northern entrance of Gulf of Paria a.m./21. Ship was got off in evening by Naval craft and harbour tug and is now in Port of Spain anchorage bow aground drawing 40 feet forward. Cargo of 9000 tons meat, number 1 and 3 holds flooded. Fear most of cargo will be lost.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1640Q/22).

Frequency for U.S. escort. Your 1125/22. U.S. Authorities concur and have informed escort accordingly.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1809R/22 to C. in C. S.A.)

JAMES HUGHES. BARWICK. Your 1605A/22. These tugs are now due Julianehaab 23/10 and are being instructed by G.B.M.S. to remain Julianehaab for further orders.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1943Z/22 to Admty.)

PASTEUR Convoy T.C. 14 A. Your 1652A/21. Request approval for embarking full capacity of military and air force personnel in PASTEUR at Halifax 3/11 to sail for U.K. 4/11. If CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS can be completed in time is she to sail with this convoy, using only accommodation for 100. Propose designating this convoy T.C. 14 A.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2011Z/22 to Admty.)

ASTURIAS. DERWENTDALE. My 1632Q/15 ASTURIAS and DERWENTDALE will not sail from Trinidad until 25/10.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 2122Q/22 to R.A.S.A.D.)

NEWCASTLE. When ready for sea B.A.R.M. is requested to sail NEWCASTLE to Bermuda manned in accordance with A.M. 2217/3.
2. C. in C. A. and W.I. is requested to arrange for NEWCASTLE to work up at Bermuda for seven days and then sail her for U.K.
3. One Walrus aircraft only should be embarked at Bermuda.
4. On arrival in U.K. intend that ship should, if circumstances permit, give 21 days' leave in one watch to personnel remaining in ship. Some adjustment to complement will then be effected.
5. Ship will then work up at home with H. F.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2142A/22).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

New Zealand

LE TRIOMPHANT

(i) Intend leave Suva a.m./31 arriving Auckland, p.m./2/11.
(ii) During stay Auckland it will be necessary to make good following additional defects recently developed: Estimated time about 8 days.
(iii) Suggest opportunity to call at Singapore may be taken for hull scraping after 5 months out of dock and make tight oil tanks which are seriously leaking. Estimated time 4 or 5 days.
(iv) Request programme may be amended accordingly. (LE TRIOMPHANT 0500Z/22)

WAITAKI

Have you any news of WAITAKI due Bluff 14/10 from Melbourne.
(D.T.D., 1820A/22 to D.N.I. Wellington)

MOST SECRET

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

AURANIA (Torpedoed 21/10.)	H.M.S. AURANIA's P.C. and S. at 1400A/21 051° 38' N., 016° 21' W. 062° 10 knots. (C. in C. W.A. 0056A/22 to BADSWORTH)
Convoy S.L. 89 ASPHODEL Sunk TREVERBYN Missing.	Convoy attacked 2105A/21 in 051° 28' N., 018° 55' W. by one S/M TREVERBYN sunk. Some survivors in ASPHODEL. ASPHODEL looking for survivors (f) U-Boat was sighted twice at 2155 and 2227 at which time one torpedo was reported to have passed through convoy. (WELLINGTON 1201A/22) My 1201A/22 SERBINO torpedoed and sunk not TREVERBYN ASPHODEL has 47 survivors. No sign of TREVERBYN. (WELLINGTON 1431A/22 to C. in C. W.A., Admty.)
VANCOUVER ISLAND	Your 1517Z/21. No information re survivors or vessel. Will signal when news received. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1324A/22)

Submarines Reported

0955 G.M.T. near S.L. 89.	D/F at 0955/22 G.M.T. on 10510 kc/s indicates that U-Boat is in vicinity of convoy S.L. 89. (D.D.I.C. 1145A/22 to escort of S.L. 89.)
1210C/20.	Bearing by D/F on 5882 kc/s at 1210C/20 U-Boat 068° 34' 039° 52' Admty. pass to SUFFOLK. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1246C/20 to Admty.)
1201 G.M.T.	By D/F 57° 50' N., 7° 20' E. unreliable fix, probably Northward bound. (D.D.I.C., 1421A/22.)
1445	Am over enemy submarine in 51° 30' N., 16° 0' W. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge when first sighted was on course 150° speed 3 knots. (A/C 9 G.X.F. 1445/22)

Estimated U-Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1504A/22)

/Am over....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

22.10.1941.
Wednesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported-Contd.

Am over enemy submarine in 51° 28' N., 16° 19' W (A/C 7 L.Z.A. 1525/22.)

0600 — Master of Portuguese trawler ACOR reports sighting U-Boat on surface 300° Cape St. Vincent 6 miles steering N.W. speed 9 knots at 0600/22 also 4 engine German bomber in same position same time. F.O.C.N.A. (IMPERIALIST 1630Z/22 to F.O.C.N.A.,/1757A/22 to S. and A., N.A.S.)

Submarines Attacked

By A/C 1040 — In 52° 23' N., 16° 18' W. Estimate hits nil. (A/C 7 L.Z. 1040/22)

By A/C 1150 — In 52° 18' N., 17° 49' W. hits nil. (A/C 7 L.Z.F. 1150/22.)

By BROADWATER 17/10. — Preliminary report of attack on U-Boat by BROADWATER in 57° N., 24' (°) W. at Approx 0430/17 All records were lost when BROADWATER was torpedoed and facts were obtained verbally from C.O.
At 0400 BROADWATER on Port Beam of Convoy, Course 090° Speed 6½ knots. Tanker 2 miles on Starboard Beam torpedoed. 0426 H.E. bearing 190° held for 2 minutes. Altered towards and increased to 12 knots. 0429 U-Boat sighted bearing Green 60. U-Boat was turning to Starboard inside BROADWATER turning circle but at 0430 straightened up and steered away on a zig zag course at approximately 18 knots. 0431 U-Boat started diving one cable ahead turning to port. BROADWATER passed over swirl hand to starboard to throw stern over U-Boat. Dropped 3 depth charges set to 100 feet. Charge from port thrower appeared well placed and four explosions were distinctly heard, last being loudest. Failed to regain contact and three Corvettes, just arrived names unknown also failed. Patch of oil 75 yards diameter appeared over position of depth charges. BROADWATER rejoined convoy at 0930. Consider this U-Boat was possibly destroyed. (Capt. (D) Londonderry, 1930/22.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Equipment for U.S.S.R.	Owing to the bursting through frost of radiators in prime movers, landed at Archangel from U.K. in temperatures as low as 12° F. without being drained, orders have been given that all vehicles, prime movers and generators in ships of Convoy P.Q.2 are to be examined and if full are to be drained.
RAMILLIES. R. SOVEREIGN.	These ships are to proceed to the Indian Ocean after 7/11.
Co-operation with U.S.A.	(U.S.) C. in C. Atlantic has issued instructions that in case Axis heavy raiders should gain open sea without prior detection U.S. heavy covering groups at Bermuda, Argentia (2 groups) and Iceland at 6 hours notice, shall take up positions to cooperate with the British Fleet.
Convoys.	Revised instructions were issued today regarding evasive alterations of course by ocean convoys.
C.E. 54 shelled.	Convoy C.E. 54 was behind time and a large part of it passed Dover in daylight this morning. Visibility was occasionally extreme. Enemy batteries fired some 19 rounds at the convoy, but no ships were hit although 15 rounds fell amongst the convoy.
O.S.9 scattered.	Convoy O.S.9 has again been badly scattered by a violent northwesterly gale. ANTWERP is proceeding to the Azores, short of fuel, and the fuel situation of all the other escorts is becoming serious. The position of the convoy is approx. 45° 52' N. 23° 18' W. at 1500Z.
S.L.89. Attack by enemy destroyers possible.	It is reported (B.2) that PRINZ EUGEN is due to leave Brest today. Two destroyers were sighted at sea off La Pallice at 1230 today; this, combined with reports of mine sweeping activity lends colour to correctness of the report. Alternatively, attack on S.L. 89 by destroyers alone may be intended.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

5 aircraft attacked the enemy battlecruisers at Brest last night and 18 aircraft attacked the docks at Le Havre.

North and South Atlantic.

Diversion of independent ships.	Fresh instructions regarding the diversion of ships sailing independently in the North and South Atlantic, to avoid known dangers, came into force at 0001 G.M.T. today.

North Atlantic.

The Spanish authorities are objecting to the measures taken to protect Gibraltar harbour against a repetition of attack by submarines.

The Admiralty today emphasise the value of the trawler patrol employed on Contraband Control off the coast of Portugal.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Corridor".	Force F (DUNEDIN, VIMY, BRILLIANT) and 2 Sunderlands commenced today a search of Cape Verde Islands for U-boats.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

5 Blenheims attacked Cotrone Chemical Works this morning.

Italian A.M.C. sunk.

C. in C. Med. reports that at 1314/14 UNIQUE torpedoed an armed merchant cruiser of the CITTA DI GENOVA class in 40° 26' N. 14° 20' E. The vessel appears to have sunk later.

At 1028 today 4 Blenheims attacked and report having seriously damaged a 2000 ton merchant vessel 50 miles 300° Marittimo.

One Wellington bombed Naples last night and reported fires from previous raids still burning.

Libya and Western Desert.

U-boats are active along the Western Desert coast and on the Alexandria - Port Said shipping route but operations by destroyers have not yet succeeded in disposing of any of them.

4 Wellingtons attacked shipping at Tripoli last night, apparently with some success.

4 Wellingtons attacked the harbour works at Benghazi last night.

Greece.

C. in C. Med. today declared an area dangerous due to British mines, in the approaches to the Gulf of Aegina (Piraeus).

U-Boat Campaign.

H.G.75. COSSACK torpedoed.

COSSACK was reported torpedoed at 2255Z today in 35° 36' N. 10° 4' W. The forward part was completely wrecked; the after part was taken in tow but sank on 27/10.

COSSACK was engaged in escorting Convoy H.G.75 at the time.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Flag of V.A.2.H.F.

The Flag of V.A.2 is to be transferred from PRINCE OF WALES to DUKE OF YORK at 0900/24. (C. in C. H.F. 1037A/23).
Your 1037A/23. All accommodation in DUKE OF YORK is required for trial parties. Suggest, as no accommodation is available for V.A.2 and staff that they proceed on leave, joining DUKE OF YORK at Scapa about 5/11. (C. in C. Rosyth 1815/23 to C. in C. H.F.)
C. in C. Rosyth's 1815/23. Request approval for V.A.2 to hoist his flag in RENOWN.
(C. in C. H.F. 2309A/23 to Admty.)

BEAUFORT.

On completion of satisfactory trials request you will sail BEAUFORT for Scapa towork up prior to joining Mediterranean Fleet. (D.O.D. H. 1250A/23 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

COLTSFOOT.

Allocation COLTSFOOT to Liverpool is cancelled and ship is to join North Atlantic Command. COLTSFOOT is to proceed to Greenock on completion of working up and F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to report earliest date ship will be ready to proceed abroad. (C. in C. W.A. 1501A/23).

Norwegian Liaison Officer.

Norwegian Naval authorities have suggested that a Norwegian Liaison Officer might be acceptable to you on your staff. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S. H. 1804A/17 to C. in C. H.F.)

INCHKEITH. SANDA. KILLEGRAY. SCARBA.

When worked up and ready for sea, request you will sail Trawlers INCHKEITH, SANDA, KILLEGRAY and SCARBA to New Zealand. Route.
Ships are expected to be ready to sail late December. (Head of M. 2020A/23 to C. in C. W.A.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Co-operation in event of heavy units breaking out.

The C. in C. Atlantic has issued instructions to his Major subordinate Commanders that in case Axis heavy raiders should gain open sea without prior detection U.S. heavy covering groups on 6 hours notice shall initially proceed toward positions in readiness upon receiving code words KASKABEKIA SANDUSKY namely Bermuda group lat. 40 long. 40 both Argentia groups lat. 50 long. 40 and Iceland Group lat. 60 long. 30. He assumes that under such circumstances similar British Groups based in Home waters will probably proceed initially toward positions in readiness 1 to southwestward another either to westward or southward. (Opnav 2232Z/23 to Admty.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ALAUNIA.
WOLFE.
MALOJA.

My 1912A/21. Request you will sail ALAUNIA, WOLFE, and MALOJA to Southampton.
2. Capt. D. Londonderry is to sail IBIS and ABERDEEN to R/V with these A.M.Cs as arranged by F.O.i/c Greenock.
3. A.M.Cs are to be sailed to arrive off Lizard at daylight 28th when IBIS will be relieved by a Destroyer detailed by C. in C. Portsmouth.
4. On relief IBIS is to return direct to Londonderry at best speed and boiler clean.
5. ABERDEEN is to provide escort to Needles if required returning direct to Londonderry.
6. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to order ABERDEEN to part company and return to Londonderry as soon as circumstances permit.
(C. in C. W.A. 0013A/23 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
Your 1912A/21 and 0013A/23 and A.M.1147A/22.
One destroyer from Portsmouth will be available to reinforce escort off Lizard for passage up Channel. Request time of R/V. Ships should be routed through 180° St. Catherines 20 miles to arrive at the end of Q Z S 169 at dawn.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1103A/23 to C. in C. W.A.)

PRINCE OF WALES.

Scapa departure V.A.2. in PRINCE OF WALES with ELECTRA and EXPRESS.
(A.C.O.S. 0707A/23)

Force G.

Admiralty 2256A/22.
(i) Para.(1) (a) HESPERUS detailed.
(ii) S.O. A/S Escort. ELECTRA.
(iii) Route. (a) 055° 45' N. 008° W. (b) 055° 45', 017°. (c) 050° 20', 026°. (d) 044° 027°.
(vi) N.O.I.C. Greenock, N.O.I.C. Londonderry are requested to sail ships accordingly.
(vii) F.O.C.N.A. is requested to issue onward route from position (d).
(C. in C. W.A. 1249A/23.)

RAMILLIES.
ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

RAMILLIES and ROYAL SOVEREIGN are required to proceed to the Indian Ocean.
2. Stores and provisions are to be embarked by 7/11 to maximum capacity, subject to not interfering with fighting efficiency.
3. A Minimum of 44 days' sea victualling is to be included.
(4th S.L. 1622A/23.)

PICTOU.

Repeat your P.C. and S. (C. in C. W.A. 2230A/23 to PICTOU.)
When CHAMBLY leaves convoy O.N.25 she is to report movements of PICTOU and orders given to latter.
(C. in C. W.A. 2244A/23.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

C.E.54 shelled.

C.E.54 was behind time table and a large part of it passed Dover in daylight this morning. Visibility was variable and occasionally extreme, so that a target was provided for enemy Coastal batteries. About 0900 4 rounds were fired which fell short of rear of convoy when near Goodwin Fork, and between 1045 and 1120 15 rounds fell amongst convoy off Ramsgate. No damage reported.
(V.A. Dover 1157A/23.)

M/V off Scillies.

Proceed to investigate 600 ton M/V reported by air in 049° 30' N. 006° 10' W. course 080°, 6 knots, at 0800/23.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1204/23 to ATHERSTONE.)
My 1204. If M/V is brought in, she should be taken to Penzance.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1314/23 to ATHERSTONE.)

"Hedgehog" Trials.

F.O.S. 0929A/14/10 and Admiralty Docket M W D 0351/41 of 29th September 1941, trial VII para.5. Request very early information as to probable date of trial so that other commitments can be met.
(Capt. S.3. 1457A/23 to D.A/S.W.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Pru-Bergen-Oslo-Stavanger-Haugesund and "Hornli" in position.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1245/23)

Bombing operations.

On Night 22/23 five A/C claim to have identified the docks at Brest where SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU lie; and bombs were dropped and fires observed in the dock area. The docks at Havre, Dunkirk and Ostend were also bombed.
(H.Q. B.C. 1600/23.)

Enemy Air Activity.

CAPELLA attacked 22/10.

Enemy A/C attacked Swedish Tanker in Thorshavn roads at 1030/22. Encountered strong A/A fire. All bombs missed. No casualties or damage.
(O.C. Troops, Faroes, 1050/23 to War Office.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation J.X.

Your 1850/22. Arrived WELSHMAN, MANXMAN. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0955A/23)
Details of operation. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1907A/23) See Lion Copy.

Sweeps off Dover.

Sweeping carried out to 0800/23. By S.A.Trawlers in Q.Z.S 238 and Convoy Route as in my 1931/5. Two Acoustic Mines detonated as reported in my 1021. By OROPESA Trawlers in Q.Z.S 238 from C1. to No.10 Buoy nothing found. By S.A. and L.L. Trawlers Q.Z.S 191 and between Dumpton and Dover in Q.Z.S 190 and 269. Negative results. (V.A. Dover 1031A/23.)

WELSHMAN.

1. Request you will sail WELSHMAN for Port Z.A. on completion of operation J.X.
2. She will not be required for a further operation under C. in C. Plymouth.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1121A/23 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

S.N.83

1. The proposals contained in your No.433/M.L. 01000/15 of 12th September are approved.
2. A.C.O.S. has been requested to carry out the necessary minesweeping operations vide A.L. M/M.S.0817/41 of 14th October.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1122A/23 to R.A.M.)
1. The proposals contained in R.A.(M)'s No. 433/M.L. 01000/15 of 12th September have been approved.
2. It is requested that you will arrange for the laying of S.N.83 to be carried out by R.A.(M) as soon as practicable after completion of the necessary minesweeping operations, using the special material originally provided for S.N.87.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1123A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)

S.N.24 C.

Your 0948/22. Destroyer escort for PORT QUEBEC will be provided if one can be released from a convoy. (C. in C. Plymouth 1310/23 to R.A.M.)

Sweep off Portland.

Intend to sail HOY, MULL and RYSA at 0700 to sweep Q.Z.S 293 from position V Z 0983 to No.1 buoy where they will R/V with P.W.55 at 1430/24 and sweep ahead returning to Portland before dark. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1801A/23.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Shipping. Following are recent Norwegian shipping movements. (N.A. Stockholm 1811/23.)
See Lion Copy.

PRINZ EUGEN. Reported that PRINZ EUGEN is due to leave Brest today. Graded B.3. Two destroyers were sighted at sea off La Pallice at 1230 today. This, combined with reports of minesweeping activity, lends colour to the correctness of this report. Alternatively attack on S.L.89 by destroyers alone may be intended.
(D.D.I.C. 1900A/23.)

S.L.89. Attack on S.L.89 by enemy destroyers is possible tonight. (C. in C. W.A. 1910A/23 to Convoy Escorts.)

Navigational.

South Shipwash Buoy. Light reported extinguished
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1035A/23.)

Technical.

Oiling at Sea. A meeting will be held at the Admiralty at 1115/30 to consider putting into effect the experience and information gained in recent trials of oiling at sea. C. in C. W.A. and C. in C. H.F. are requested to send representatives, and forward by signal proposed items for inclusion in Agenda.
(4th S.L. 1805A/23.)

Casualties and Defects.

AURANIA. Your 1712A/22. AURANIA is to proceed to Clyde. On arrival the necessary steps should be taken to effect temporary repairs and reduction of draught forward pending the placing of AURANIA for docking and permanent repairs.
(D.O.D. H. 0112A/23)
Arrived Clyde. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1544A/23.)

/KING GEORGE V. ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

KING GEORGE V. Your 2251A/20. Request you will send a list of compartments of KING GEORGE V. in which the ventilation is most inadequate, the order being the worst compartment first. Tests will be carried out on these compartments during forthcoming trials of J.1554.
(Controller 0140A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)

T.L.C.24. Request you will sail ST.CLAVES to assistance of T.L.C.24 in position S.E. Chicken Rock Light. DRANGEY standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0445A/23 to N.O.I.C. Campeltown.)
ST. CLAVES proceeding. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0446A/23)

ROYAL STAR. Has fouled 56 Buoy. Require Salvage Tugs. Am standing by her. (SHELDRAKE 0532A/23.) Dep. Tugs ST.MELLONS and KROOMAN at 0730A to assist ROYAL STAR. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0753A/23.)
ROYAL STAR under way on starboard engine only.
(SHELDRAKE 0929A/23)

ROSTHERN. C. in C. W.A. 2147A/22. Engine repairs to ROSTHERN will require 14 days to make good before sailing. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1353A/23.)

MISTRAL. My 1639/16. It is necessary to retube completely all boilers. Time for complete retubing is approx. three months. If tubes not available, alternative would be to complete renewal of the fire rows together with a proportion of the other tubes. This latter would probably mean the acceptance of occasional preparations as has happened during recent weeks. Early decision is requested.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1440/23.)

EGLANTINE. R.D.F. not repaired. Proceeding according to previous orders. (EGLANTINE 1758A/23)

VERVAIN. Following from D. Greenock begins:- F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1246A/21. In view of the recent sinking of corvettes it is considered modification to VERVAIN's bridge is of great importance. 1620A/22 ends. Concur. Request this be carried out during present period in hand if at all possible. (C. in C. W.A. 1831A/23.)

/A.L.C.24

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

A.L.C.24
A.L.C.25

A.L.C's 24 and 25 have just developed fresh defects. (PRINCE LEOPOLD 2200/23)

Shipping and Convoys.

E.C.89.

Report whether E.C.89 has passed number 5 Buoy. (C. in C. Nore 0101A/23 to VANITY.)

Q.P.2.

If circumstances appear at the time would it be acceptable for convoy Q.P. two to be delayed up to three days while all available British destroyers and minesweepers carried out A/S search in the White Sea. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and S.B.N.O. North Russia. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0920C/23 to Adty.)

O.N.29.

Aultbea section of O.N.29 will sail without Snowflakes. None available at this port. (Staff Officer D.E.M. Aultbea 1047A/23)

P.Q.2.

Pass to all ships in convoy P.Q.2. Radiators of all Vehicles, Prime Movers, and Generators etc. embarked are to be immediately examined and if full should be drained forthwith. (D.T.D. 1147A/23 to NORFOLK)

Convoy.

Many congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. the ships of your convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1255A/23 to Rear Admiral C.N. Reyne.)

O.S.9.

Your 2044A/22 passed to Cdre. O.S.9 again badly scattering by violent gale N.W. Cdre. intends to make for position (Q) when weather moderates. He requests ships may be informed by G.B.M.S. message. ANTWERP proceeding Azores short of fuel. Fuel situation of all the rest becoming serious. Dead reckoning position is (?45) 52 (?25) 18, course 160° speed 7½ knots. (EGRET 1500Z/23 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Convoy H.X.155 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

Convoy H.X.155 CLARE LILY. EMPIRE LINK.	Following for C. in C. W.A. from VANOC by aircraft begins. CLARE LILY and EMPIRE LINK missing T.O.O 1230Z. Ends. (A.C.I.C. 1601/22 to C. in C. W.A.)
S.C.47.	Convoy delayed by head winds and heavy seas. All ships,now arrived. (D.T.D.1943A/23 to Opnav.)
H.X. and S.C. convoys.	Request you will in future pass to N.C.S.O. Reykjavik particulars of ships for or calling at Iceland which are included in Advance Sailing telegrams and Part II of Sailing telegrams. (D.T.D. 1944A/23 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.C.S.O. Sydney, C.B.)
Ocean Convoys. Evasive alterations of Course.	Revised instructions. (D.T.D.2004A/23) See Lion Copy.
P.Q.Convoys.	Present sailing programme and arrangements. Request further information as to discharging facilities. (D. of S.T. 2244A/23 to N.C.S.O. Archangel) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Alleged Violation of Spanish Territorial waters at Algeciras.

Spanish Authorities demand immediate measures to prevent violation of territorial waters Algeciras Bay (?regularly) every night by M.T.Bs or fast M.Ls dropping D.Cs close to shore especially off La Linea resulting in extreme annoyance alarm disturbance fishing and offence to Spanish sovereignty.
Minister understands necessary after recent Italian attack and does not wish to open question of territorial waters. He is fully aware of explosive risks involved if his M.T.Bs patrol in Bay. But unless some modification takes place he must take action at once.
(N.A. Madrid 0019/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My immediately preceding telegram.
Port Captain Algeciras reports few days ago saw your Secretary and received undertaking to modify areas patrolled and depth charged. No result has been apparent. Ministef who stressed great urgency agrees that matter should be settled locally. Affair complicated by unadvised entry other night of British M.T.B. or fast M.L. into Tarita harbour. She inspected tug in harbour and left at once, very lucky not to be fired on.
Minister requests reply this report.
(N.A. Madrid 0020/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 0020/23.
(i) Nightly dropping of depth charges is confined to British waters and is considered an essential defence measure.
(ii) No British craft of any sort has entered Tarita harbour except two motor launches on 5/9 at invitation of local authorities to recover shipwrecked seamen.
(iii) Meeting was held 22/10 to arrange details regarding existing patrols which had already been agreed in general verbally between Captain of Port Algeciras and Assistant Colonial Secretary. Following were present Spanish Captain of Port Algeciras, Assistant Colonial Secretary Gibraltar, Captain of Port Gibraltar, Commdr Handcock representing me, G.S.O.1 representing Fortress H.Q.
(iv) Friendly agreement having been reached no further meeting appears necessary.
(v) No necessity for you to come down but shall be glad to see you if you care to do so.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1744A/23 to N.A. Madrid.)
N.A. Madrid's 0019/23 and 0020/23. Admty. would like your remarks. In the meantime you need not stop any of the activitiesthat you consider are necessary.
(1st S.L. 1938A/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/French ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Ships.
Passings 22/10. French Eastward, L'OBSTINE.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0915A/23.)

FAULKNOR, question of sabotage.
D.N.I. is to be informed (Copy to F.O. Force H.) whether there were any grounds for suspicion of sabotage in connection with damage to FAULKNOR's turbine quoting A.D.N.I. 2065/41/3842 of 16/9/41.
(F.O. Force H. 1053A/23 to D.8.)

HERMIONE Search for tanker.
If nothing is seen by dark tonight 23/10 return to Gibraltar. Acknowledge.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1222A/23 to HERMIONE.)
Your 1224A/23 (?1222A/23 intended) E.T.A. 0730A/25 Weather report 231 1564 my position 41° N. 17° W.
(HERMIONE 2110A/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

German torpedo.
Your 1816/22. A short report of circumstances only is desired.
(D.T.M. 1559A/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Signalling.
F.O.C. N.A. 1858/22. Concur.
(S.O. Force H. 1615A/23)

Portugal patrol.
Request you will convey to all concerned an expression of T.Ls' appreciation of the zeal and devotion to duty shewn by the officers and men of H.M. Trawlers employed on Contraband Control off the Portuguese coast.
That this arduous service is of great value to us and keenly resented by the enemy is clearly shown by the recent attack on LOCH OSKAIG.
M.E.W. has specially asked to be associated with this message.
(1st S.L. 1914A/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MALINES.
E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1200 G.M.T./24 estimated requirements 450 tons oil fuel.
(MALINES 1930A/23.)

French Ships.
Gibraltar 1012. Minesweeper LA CURIEUSE, Armed Fleet oiler TARN, S.S. PROVIDENCE, MONTAIGNE, MONT CASSEL. All laden westbound.
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 2101A/23.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

BULOLO. Arrived Montevideo 1200 G.M.T./22 for 48 hours visit this extension granted for changing valves C.A.F.O.106/41 refers.
(BULOLO 0951/23.)

DARKDALE. Unless contrary evidence is obtained we must assume R.F.A. DARKDALE was sunk by U-Boat. Have therefore diverted all shipping well clear of St. Helena and visits referred to in my 2135/20 will not now take place.
(2) Further I cannot risk GLOUCESTER CASTLE not withstanding she has stores for you and she will therefore only call Ascension.
(3) Please let me know what will be effect of non-receipt of these stores and how long you can manage without them. I will in any case endeavour to ship them in more suitable ship from Freetown.
(4) I am sending ship with divers and diving gear to examine wreck.
(C. in C. S.A. 1033N/23 to General St. Helena.)
I am sending MILFORD to St.Helena with divers and diving gear to examine wreck of DARKDALE. In meantime shipping has been routed clear of St. Helena and I arranging to use Pointe Noire and Walvis Bay for fuelling.
(C. in C. S.A. 1615N/23 to Adty.)

Troop Movements. Your 0800/?5.
STRATHEDEN with 3500 British troops for M.E. escorted by DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will leave Capetown p.m./24 and arrive Durban p.m./27. ARONDA with 1420 Non-European Union troops plus European Officers and N.C.Os will be ready to leave Durban with STRATHEDEN on 28/10. Request name of escort.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1055B/23 to C. in C. E.I.)

HOXA.
ROMEO. Left U.K. 2/9 called at Ponta Delgada on 11/9. Ships were routed via Fayal where coal had been arranged for them.
2. Request you will ascertain from Senior C.O. his reasons for the apparent departure from his instructions.
(D.O.D.(F) 1323A/23 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Entry into Freetown. Instructions for convoys. (C. in C. S.A. 1425N/23.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Piraeus Approaches mined.

An area enclosed by the following points is dangerous due to British mines 037° 31' 26" N. 023° 50' 40" E. 037° 31' 48" N. 023° 51' 26" E. 037° 28' 32" N. 023° 52' 48" E. 037° 28' 52" N. 023° 53' 32" E.
(C. in C. Med. 0941B/23 to Q.B./no number given)

Air Operations.

1. Night 21/22. 4 Wellingtons bombed harbour works Benghazi and 1 ship seen in harbour there. Bombs which fell on bases of Central and Cathedral Moles started fire between Telephone Exchange and Customs House, ship not hit. 1 F.A.A. Albacore bombed enemy stores dump concealed in Wadi North West of Bardia results unobserved.
Day 22/10. No shipping sighted between Crete and Libya, several small M/Vs seen at sea among Islands in Eastern Aegean.
2. 22/10. 3 Savoia aircraft attacked shipping 10 miles North East of Damietta nearest bomb fell 400 yards from vessels.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1126/23.)
Night Oct.20/21. 4 Wellingtons dropped total 14,000 pounds bombs on Benghazi harbour. Hits made on Juliana Mole and railway sidings but no visible results.
Day 21/10. During morning 2 S.A.A.F. Squadrons each of 9 Marylands bombed Benghazi harbour and shipping from 17,000 feet dropping total of 136,250 pound bombs. First squadron over hit Juliana Point and Mole with 49 bombs. 1 bomb fell on Outer Mole. Bombing second squadron 3 hours later was hampered by cloud which partly obscured the target majority of bombs falling in sea round Juliana Point. 1 bomb fell near large ship in harbour other bombs near railway sidings. 56 Hurricane 33 Tomahawk 10 Martlet sorties on covering patrol over shipping off Sidi Barrani and GNAT torpedoed on previous evening. GNAT under tow by destroyer and making for Alexandria. 1 Blenheim sighted about 30 miles S. of W. coast of Crete, 1 Sunderland at 50 feet flying north escorted by 1 M.E.109 and 2 M.E.110s.
Blenheim crew emphatic flying boat was Sunderland. Matter under investigation.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1206/22.)
2 enemy bombers approached 2136/22, 1 crossed coast. Incendiaries Curmi district no damage. Bombs in sea. Special search Kerkennah Pantelleria and Tunisian coast sighted 0600 hours, 1 submarine submerged 12 miles East Kaliba course N.E. 4/5 knots.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1800/23.)

/Naples ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Operations contd.

Naples-Cagliari sighted 0634 hours 1 M/V 2000 tons stationary 300° Marittimo 50 miles; 4 Blenheims attacked above M/V 1028 hours total bombs dropped 4000 pounds 1st aircraft machine gunned before bombing 1 direct hit near funnel causing big black column of smoke and steam confirmed by photographs 2 near misses under bow and stern crew seen mustering as if to abandon claimed seriously damaged. Night 22/23 October 2 Wellingtons despatched attack Naples 1 recalled very bad weather total bombs 4000 pounds dropped through gap in clouds fire started near station hits on buildings round station and railway yards fires from previous raid still burning opposition inaccurate. 4 Wellingtons attacked shipping Tripoli.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1805/23)
Total bombs dropped 16000 lbs. from 6000 feet hits on Karamanli Mole. 4 500 lbs. burst near shipping causing explosions and black smoke. Day 23/10 5 Blenheims attacked Cotrone Chemical Works. Bombs fell on target area.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1810/23.)

SZEGED.

(Hungarian) Arrived Istanbul from Burgos.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1255/23.)

UTMOST.
SOKOL.

UTMOST leaves Malta p.m./23 through 036° 20' 012° 00' for area Q 035° 50' 010° 39' - 345 - 40 - 75.
SOKOL leaves 038° 00' 011° 44' p.m./24 thence through 038° 40' 011° 50' for area N. north of 038° 50' and east of line - Stromboli - Capri.
(Capt. (S) 10 1320A/23 to UPRIGHT, P.34, URGE.)

THUNDERBOLT.

Proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive off Marsamxett 0630A/25.
(Capt. (S) 10 1329A/23 to THUNDERBOLT.)

Intelligence.

2 small craft escorted by one destroyer sighted in 031° 50' 017° 22' at 1100B/23 course 080° speed 8 knots.
(Capt. (S) 1 1611B/23 to THRASHER.)
My 1307/22. Reported two Italian ships expected Istanbul from Aegean in a few days. Graded A.2.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1658B/23 to S.O.(I) Med.)
Aircraft R/C 0700/23 3,000 ton tanker close off Kelibia course N.
(Capt. (S) 10 1929A/23 to UPRIGHT, P.34.)

/S.S. DIVONA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

S.S.DIVONA. (attacked 21/10)

I.192 21/10 and Admiralty Signals 1800/2/3 and 0857/6/3 to C. in C. Med. repeated V.A. Malta. Was the small M/V attacked by Blenheims and subsequently identified as French within Tunisian territorial waters. Request immediate reply and any other details available. (Air Min. 1825/23 to H.Q. R.A.F. Malta.)

Orders to TRUANT.

Reference secret (? important) (? message) 1327/18. It was not clearly stated in your sailing orders that your object is to sink by the most appropriate means all shipping encountered in Adriatic. The Folboat party is entirely subordinate to main object and should only be employed if conditions are entirely favourable for this diversion without prejudice to your object. The chief usefulness of diversion is to cause increased enemy effort to guard railways on Eastern shores of Italy. (Capt. (S) 10 1900A/23 to TRUANT.)

Situation report 160.

My 1701/21. GNAT has arrived Alexandria in tow (?after) good work by GRIFFIN and effective fighter protection throughout day 21st. Ship is flooded forward to after bulkhead of wardroom. Full report follows after inspection.

GNAT.

HAVOCK.

2. My 2036/20. HAVOCK has returned to Alexandria but not yet docked. Damage apparently confined to propellers and shafts.

Western Desert.

3. Western Desert. AJAX, HOBART and GALATEA bombarded battery east of Tobruk night of 20/21 but shelling of Tobruk has continued since. 7th C.S. again at sea today 23/10 with 6 destroyers for further bombardment. Capt.D.14 with 3 destroyers bombarded Bardia harbour area night of 21/22. Bombardment reported successful. Operation "Cultivate" and Tobruk supply continues. 2 daylight raids and Tobruk (corrupt group) 21 by 12 and 25 J.U.87. Damage not serious, 2 J.U.87 shot down.

4. U.Boats are active along Western Desert Coast and on Alex-Port Said shipping route and have been sighted and attacked by aircraft. Subsequent A/S hunts by destroyers have not yet proved successful.

Canal area.

5. Canal area. BULLFINCH bombed and machine gunned by two enemy aircraft a.m./22 in position 031° 38' 031° 58'. Only very slight damage no casualties.

Red Sea. KADIO sunk.

6. Red Sea. CARLISLE and FLAMINGO returning to reinforce Suez escort force. KADIO loaded with petrol caught fire p.m./20 in Suez Bay and has grounded in 5 fathoms.

A.M.C. torpedoed.

7. Submarines. UNIQUE torpedoed A.M.C. CITTA DI GENOVA class in 040° 26' 014° 20' at 1314/14. Ship appears to have sunk later. (C. in C. Med. 1933B/23.)

/OTTO ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

OTTO LEONHARDT. Sailed early a.m./23 latest report says going Sagunto for more Iron Ore thence proceeding Genoa.
(Valencia T.H.I. 2010/23.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.41.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

M.V.PACIFIC (Swedish.) — Cancel my 0644/22 and Colombo's 0606/14 ship arrived Calcutta 23/10. (C. in C.E.I., 1058Z/23, to Adty.)

Addu Atoll. — Has M/L D.002487/41 of 21.8.41 been received?
2. Re: Addu Atoll, request anticipated date of
(a) Completion of laying of Indicator nets.
(b) Completion of laying of Controlled mines.
(c) 6" guns ready for action.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1832A/23 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

KHAI DINH (French.) — Departure 21/10. Haiphong. (No. 36. Saigon 0735Z/23.)

CHENONCEAU. — Intercepted correspondence shown CHENONCEAU departing France for Indo China 30/10. (? C/S Singapore 0801Z/23 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

Transport officers. — We propose to send by air three experienced sea transport officers and a senior technical officer with very wide knowledge of trooping. These officers will be at your disposal to advise and assist in preparation and embarkation of U.S. transports. (D. of S.T., 0612A/23 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

Task Force 2. — My 1647/15. Reorganisation of Task Force Two. PHILADELPHIA and BROOKLYN have exchanged groups. (D.O.D.(F) 1330A/23.)

/S.S.HARDWICKE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

S.S.HARDWICKE GRANGE. (grounded.)

My 16400/22 possibility of saving 3200 tons of frozen meat from HARDWICKE GRANGE. S.S.GAELIC STAR now arrived can take this. Am transferring cargo immediately sailing ship Halifax after loading.
(N.O.I.C.Trinidad 1414Q/23 to Adty.)

M.V.COLUMBIA.

Swedish M.V.COLUMBIA Vancouver ready to sail for Vladivostock held by owners awaiting Japanese developments. His orders to proceed are received Master wishes to use Dutch harbour as port of refuge if necessary. U.S. regulations forbid foreign merchant vessels using this port unless permission granted by U.S. Secretary of Navy. Can permission be requested for COLUMBIA and other ships on great circle route to use this port in event of emergency, as refuge port.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1529Z/23 to B.A.D.Washington.)

DIDO.

My 1850R/18 and A.M. 1533A/18. Ship will sail about fourteen days after arrival of R.D.F., Gear at New York. In view of working up opportunities at Brooklyn ship will only require 8 days practice at Bermuda of which 5 days at sea.
(B.A.R.M. Washington 1642R/23.)

AZUMA MARU.

Painted Battleship grey. Bermuda pass to Oiler ORANGELEAF.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica 1656R/23.)

CLAESJE.

A.M./2150A/12/9. Request you will sail CLAESJE when ready routed through 035° 00' N., 073° 30' W., Crooked Is., and Windward Passages to Curacao.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1703Q/23 to C.O.A.C.Halifax.)

BROOMDALE and Corvettes.

Abrolhos Rock intended departure A.M./24. Oiler BROOMDALE Trinidad 5/11 coastal to (C) 002° S., 040° W., (D) 006° N., 050° W.,(E)011° N., 060° W., knots 10. Escorted by LAVENDER and BERGAMOT to 008° S.
(R.A.S.A.D., 2123Z/23 to N.O.I/C. Trinidad.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

VENDETTA. Your 2203A/17 refit can be undertaken at Melbourne but in view of extensive work being done on STUART delay will probably occur. (A.C.N.B. 12122/23 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.48
GLADIOLUS. Your 1646/21. Please confirm communication between WESTASKIWIN and GLADIOLUS at 1930/16 and subsequent Bogus message were R/T on 2410 kcs. (C.in C. W.A. 1251A/23 to A.C.I.C.).

COSSACK torpedoed. COSSACK torpedoed in 035° 36' N 010° 04' W. (LEGION 2255Z/23).

Submarines Reported.

H.G.75 reported 2347/22. German submarine made sight report of H.G. 75 at 2347 on 4796 kc/s. (F.O.C.N.A. 0113A/23 to Escort of H.G.75).

HERMIONE EAGLE ARGUS. My 2226A/22 to F.O.C.N.A. only. D/F Bearings suggest possibility of an Italian U-B being in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 0956A/23 to HERMIONE, EAGLE ARGUS).

H.G.75 reported 0144. German submarine made sighting report of H.G.75 at 0144 249° class 501. (F.O.C.N.A. 0302A/23 to Escort of H.G.75).

1100 1 Submarine bearing 005° distance 6 miles course 350°, my position 35° 47' N 7° 49' E. (ST.NECTAN. 1100/23 to Gibraltar W/T).

MALAYA LIGHTNING HAVELOCK HARVESTER. 5 U-B have recently operated against Convoy S.L.89. Enemey aircraft are active in vicinity of this convoy. Special vigilance should be observed between latitudes 53° N. and 51° N. (D.D.I.C. 1238A/23 to MALAYA and escorts).

Estimated U-B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1345A/23).

1310Z By D/F within 60 miles of 53° N 20° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 1516A/23).

0956 G.M.T. Transport aircraft reported (corrupt group) U-B in 047° N 007° 10' W at 0956 G.M.T./23 at latest easterly course. U-B crash dived on approach of aircraft. (F.O.C.N.A. 1729A/23. to Adty.).

/ D/F.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.10.1941.
Thursday.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported -contd.

1358Z
1330Z.

D/F fix of U-B at 1358Z/23 on 13768 kc/s between 035° and 036° N 009° and 011° W another U-B fixed at 1330Z/23 on 7640 kc/s within 30 miles of 035° 50' N 007° 45' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1905A/23 to Escorts of H.G.75).

1612 G.M.T.
1700 G.M.T.

By D/F (1) at 1612 G.M.T./23 within 60 miles of 035° 40' N 008° 30' W. (2) at 1700 G.M.T./23 within 30 miles of 036° 00' N 009° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 2035A/23 to Escorts of H.G.75).

Submarines Attacked.

By
BEVERLEY.

At 0050/23 in 051° 45' N. 014° 02' W. contacted U-B on R.D.F. chased sighted and depth charged on diving then 3 subsequent attacks by Asdic after which contact disappeared without visible evidence rejoining convoy. (BEVERLEY 0300A/23).

By ABELIA
17/10.

Preliminary report of attack on U-B by ABELIA in 57° N. 24° 16' W. approx. at 0503 N./17. Survivors from S.S. ERVIKEN reported U-B seen at about 0000,N/17. Contact obtained at 0456 bearing 230° 1500 yards H.E. and whistle effect both heard when range was 200 yards. ABELIA turned towards and attacked with 5 charges. A sixth explosion of greater intensity was heard about 10 seconds after the explosion of the five charges. Contact was not lost and attacked again at 0534 N. and 0543 N. with 5 and 8 charges respectively. Contact was not regained after third attack. ABELIA remained in vicinity until 0730 N firing Snowflakes but no trace of wreckage of U-B sighted. (Capt. D. Londonderry 2200/23, 0045/24).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Certain neutral Consuls are said to have been instructed to make every endeavour to obtain information regarding movements of shipping.

After 0001 G.M.T./28 U.S. S/Ms in the Atlantic will use British identification flares.

Photographic R/C of Hamburg at 1320A today showed that ADMIRAL SCHEER had left No.5 floating dock. Cloud obscured the remainder of Bloehm and Voss Yard.

Minesweepers for N.Russia. After arrival of P.Q.2 at Archangel six fleet minesweepers will remain based in North Russia. They will be available for local A/S and M/S duties and to act as local escort for convoys.

V.A.2. The Flag of V.A.2 was transferred to RENOWN at 0900 today.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather restricted operations last night. 69 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked the Deutsche and Germania works at Kiel. Small forces attacked the Naval units at Brest and harbour and dock installations at Le Havre and Cherbourg.

A Beaufort of Coastal Command hit and set on fire this evening a 7000 ton merchant vessel 11 miles S.W. of Kristiansand.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

CHRYSOLITE was slightly damaged when she was attacked, with GRAMPIAN and CRAFTSMAN by an enemy aircraft 10 miles N.E. of Aberdeen at 1900 today. The aircraft fired the correct flares before and on completion of attack, without being challenged.

Two bombs were dropped at 0638 by one of our own aircraft 30 yards from VIMIERA and a ship of E.C.89, near 18 D.buoy. No damage is reported.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

H.M.T. EMILION was mined and sunk this morning and H.M.T. LUCIENNE JEANNE was damaged this evening and was afterwards beached, but subsequently capsized, and M.M.S.19 was damaged by near mine, all in the Thames Estuary.

North Atlantic.

The German JOAO PESSOA (3023 tons) arrived at Bilbao today from a French occupied port, to load iron ore. It appears that the enemy are instituting a service of larger ships to carry iron ore from Spanish ports to Bayonne, as EUGENIO C (Italian 4078 tons) began this trade on 18/10. Previously the ore had been carried in 11 or 12 French and Dutch ships of 300 tons and under.

MOST SECRET.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Malta bombed. There were two small air attacks on the Grand Harbour area last night. No naval damage is reported.

Naples bombed. 3 Wellingtons bombed Naples last night. 4 Wellingtons attacked again from 1944 to 2308 today.

Libya and Western Desert. 4 Wellingtons bombed the docks at Benghazi last night.

H.M. ships carried out a bombardment of Bardia harbour with aircraft co-operation last night.

An empty lighter was sunk by bombing at Tobruk this afternoon.

3 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night.

East Indies.

The necessary instructions to shipping on the station should hostilities with Japan become imminent were issued today.

China.

The Japanese fleet is reported to be fully mobilized.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy H.G.75.

LEGION reports that CARSBRECK and ALHAMA were sunk last night. S.S. ARIOSTO was reported to have been torpedoed and sunk at 0550A today.

It appears probable that a German U-boat working in co-operation with a F.W. was destroyed by LAMERTON in 57° 8' N. 11° 30' W. at 1730A today.

An aircraft at 1720 today attacked a U-boat in 56° 3' N. 11° 32' W. dropping 4 depth charges, only one of which exploded. One hit the U-boat without exploding.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Polish personnel for U.K.

For your information, with reference to the question of despatch of released Polish personnel to U.K. it is understood that the Polish Government has approved the priority of 1000 men for entry into Polish Navy. Polish Naval C. in C. would be grateful for any co-operation you can give when the time comes.
(D.N.I., 0301A/24 to Ad. Miles).

Flag of V.A.2.

Your 2309/23. Approved.
(1st S.L., 0840A/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

ALAUNIA, ASCANIA.

F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2222/22.
2. Cancel A.M.1147/22.
3. ALAUNIA is to be taken in hand for fitting for Tropics at Clydebank. ASCANIA will be taken in hand for making good defects and fitting for Tropics at Southampton. Re sailing.
(D.O.D. (H) 1100A/24 C. in C. W.A., 2137A/24)

DUKE OF YORK.

On completion DUKE OF YORK will come under the orders of C. in C. H.F. and will proceed to Scapa for trials and working up as ordered by him. (Controller, 1217A/24).

Signalling by ships in Atlantic.

Identical with 2045A to F.O.C.N.A. (Admty 2042A/24 C. in C. W.A.)

Flag of V.A.2.

Hoist Flag of V.A. 2 at 0900/25.
(V.A.2 2110/24 to RENOWN).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

S/M Recognition signals.

Admiralty 674A/11/10. After 0001 G.M.T./28 U.S. submarines in the Atlantic will use British Identification Flares, colours as laid down in S.P. 02293K.
(D.S.D., 1855A/24 A. Mge. 733A)

MOST SECRET.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

White Sea approaches.	New Swept Channels (Details) (?LEDA, 1050C/24 to Admty).
Communication between Archangel and Polyarno.	Your 2350C/22. It is necessary to arrange frequency and W/T routine between Archangel and Polyarno as alternative to teleprinters. Archangel is therefore to establish communication with Polyarno on 6342K/cs per sec. at 0730, 1530 and 2230 G.M.T. commencing 27/10 until further instructions given. Meantime full use to be made of teleprinters. (S.B.N.O. N.Russia, 1136C/24 to S.B.N.O.Archangel)
Iokanskie	(?Report) on Iokanka. A.C. White Sea Forces states up to maximum of 5 M.V's and 3 escorts can lie at buoy or at anchor within nets and A/A defences of port but he would prefer only 3 M.Vs. Escorts would have to fuel Murmansk unless A.C. Northern Fleet could send tanker. Further report and confirmation or otherwise will be sent after return of HUSSAR. Admiralty pass* to C. in C. H.F.and S.B.N.O. N. Russia. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1312C/24 to Admty) *Action taken by W.R.
Fleet minesweepers for North Russia convoy Q.P.2	S.B.N.O. Archangel 0920C/23, I intend that the six fleet minesweepers should be based in North Russia, after arrival of escort of P.Q.2. These will be available for local A/S and M/S duties and to act as local escort for convoys. 2. Under present circumstances, a 3 day postponement of Q.P. 2 and consequent delay in return of NORFOLK and 2 destroyers, is not acceptable. 3. *Admiralty pass to S.B.N.Os. Archangel and North Russia. (C. in C. H.F., 1618A/24 to Admty). *Action taken by W/R
A/C in Russia.	No enemy activity. Handing over completed. (151 Wing, 1800/24 to Air Ministry)
Molotorsk.	Your 0039A/17 and my 2340C/19. Following is information obtained from visit today. Details. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1820C/24) See Lion Copy.

/Prohibited....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia - Contd.

Prohibited area.

Nets are being laid in area enclosed by following positions and it is closed to all shipping: 67° 14' N., 41° 28.5' E., 67° 16' N., 41° 28.5' E., 67° 16' N., 41° 43' E., 67° 14' N., 41° 43' E.
2.* Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia and Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2241B/23 to Admty).*Action taken by W.R.

Defence of U.K.

Sinking of Invasion Barges.

Soviet Naval Authorities ask whether we have any method of fixing torpedoes shallow enough to hit invasion barges. They had failed in this respect off Oeskhorm Island. 2. They reported success by machine gunning water line from M.T.Bs.
3. Request any useful information.
(Adm. Miles, 1709B/24 to Admty).

Movements.

SEAWOLF.

Intend to sail SEAWOLF at 1500 /25 diving by day to R/V with CUTTY SARK at 0730/27 off Lizard Head for escort to Scapa arriving there A.M./31, thence in accordance with F.O.S. 1734A/13. (Capt. (S) 5., 0910A/24 to A.C.O.S.)
My 0910A/24. SEAWOLF's route in English Channel as in my 0917A/21. (S.5., 0912A/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth.

PICTOU.

Cancel my 2244A/23. PICTOU has arrived St. Johns N.F. (C.in C.W.A.1037A/24 to C.C.N.F., CHAMBLY).

Force G.

A.M.2256A/22 and 1153A/24. Force G should be sailed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1249A/23 as soon as pump has been embarked and ships are ready for sea. (V.C.N.S.1315A/24 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

TRINIDAD.

Intend to sail TRINIDAD escorted by KUJAWIAK during night of 25/26 only for Greenock leaving Plymouth 1630/25. Code word "Review".
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1718/24).

WELSHMAN.

My 1907/23 postponed 24 hours.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1733A/24 to WELSHMAN).

Information for PALOMARES.

SEALION escorted by WHITE BEAR proceeding Northwards may be met about 2400/24.
(C. in C. W.A., 1737A/24 to PALOMARES).

A.F.D.XIV.

Now ready to proceed. Weather permitting intend to sail her in tow of EMPIRE HENCHMAN and escorted by MORGAN JONES and NORTHNESS at 0900/25 E.T.A.32 Buoy 1000/27.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1840/24 to C. in C. Rosyth).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Trawlers. Return to Base. (C. in C. W.A., 0730A/24 to KRAKOWIAK, HUJAWIAK)

HUSSAR. 1. Old programme. 2. Sail 1800C/25. 3. Proceed as previously arranged by S.B.N.O. keeping well clear of Russian S/Ms. 4. Join me after 0700C/26 as is consistent with para 3. (LEDA, 1618C/24 to HUSSAR).

British Air Activity.

E.C.89 and VIMIERA bombed by own A/C. Hampden returning from seaward at 0638 crossing coast 2 miles north of 18 D buoy released 2 smaller types of bombs which near missed, VIMIERA and Commodore by 30 yards. (VIMIERA, 0652A/24).

Patrols. Patrol South "Trost" and P.R.U. of Aalborg, Fredrikshaven, Kristiansand, and Stavanger now being flown. "Hornli" and North "Stab" taking off shortly. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1119/24).
"Hornli" patrol 100%. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1817/24).
Four S/E A/C 59 Sqd. are to carry out a patrol, by single A/C during darkness tonight outside Cherbourg to detect the possible departure of two destroyers. Each A/C will patrol for three hours. First A/C to be on datum at 1900 hrs. and patrol from QMMS 4550 to SGUF 0030 to QMLQ 4000.
First sighting reports are to be sent and the enemy shadowed if found.
(A.C.H.Q., Chatham, 1521/24 to Thorney Island).

On Night 23/24 sixty-two A/C attacked Kiel, starting fires, and seven A/C attacked the Naval Units at Brest. The docks at Cherbourg and Havre were also bombed.
(H.Q.B.C., 1630/24).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S.28 1 aircraft shadowing me, course 180° My position 54° 3' N., 0° 7' E. (LIDDESDALE, 1818/24).
Help. "Arena". (LIDDESDALE, 1840/24).

/GRAMPIAN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.10.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

GRAMPIAN, CRAFTSMAN, CHRYSOLITE, (M/S Trawlers) attacked.

GRAMPIAN, CRAFTSMAN, and CHRYSOLITE attacked by enemy A/C 10 miles N.E. of Aberdeen 1900. A/C machine gunned and dropped bombs. No casualties. CHRYSOLITE leaking slightly from near miss. All ships returned to harbour. A/C engaged by M/S. A/C fired correct flares before and on completion of attack without being challenged. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 2220/24).

Mining.

Sweeps off Dover.

Sweeping carried out to 0800/24. by S.A. trawlers. QZS. 191 and in QZS. 190 and 269 between Dumpton and Dover. Negative results.
1 acoustic mine detonated by R.A.F.H.S.L. 147 at 1015/23 in position 068° Sandhead Buoy 1 mile. No damage to H.S.L. (V.A. Dover, 1047A/24).

S.N.83A.
S.N.83B.

Admiralty 1122A/23. Cancel my 0944/22. Propose S.N.83 be laid in 2 sections.
(i) S.N. 83A from 62° 33' N., 09° 04' W., to 62° 44' N., 10° 00' 30" W., with MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, and WELSHMAN sailing A.M./30 or as soon afterwards as sweeping of S.N.6 and S.N.66 allows.
(ii) S.N.83B. from 062° 50' N., 009° 54' W. to 062° 58' 30" N., 010° 28' W., with MENESTHEUS, WELSHMAN, and MANXMAN sailing about 5/11.
Cruiser escort is requested for both operations and 1 additional destroyer for S.N.83A only.
(R.A.M., 1114/24).

EMILION (M/S Trawler) sunk.

EMILION sunk by mine at 1007/24 in 39° B.6 buoy 1.4 miles. Ship towed clear of channel. No casualties. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1206A/24 1607/24).
DALRIADA is to endeavour to disperse wreck of EMILION at first favourable opportunity.
(C. in C. Nore, 2055A/24)

Thames Estuary.

Three mines exploded apparently spontaneously at 0225/24 in 208° West Barrow Beacon 2.95 Miles. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1236/24).

N.P.25,
N.P.18,
N.P. 7.

My 1019A/22 and 0951A/16 and A.M.1538A/16.
Intend to postpone Operation N.P. 25 for the present and to carry out N.P.18 at first opportunity followed by N.P.7.
(V.A. Dover, 1731A/24).

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

2 Destroyers at Cherbourg.

P.R.U. Sortie T/867 date 24/10 time 0830 hours shows in Cherbourg two Destroyers have arrived since 22/10 and are alongside at Gare Maritime in Darse Transatlantique. Otherwise no change in shipping. (P.R.U. Benson, 1115/24)
My 1900A/23. Two destroyers located at Cherbourg at 0830/24 have arrived since 22nd. R/C of Brest at 0830/24 showed Battlecruisers and PRINZ EUGEN in usual berths.
(D.D.I.C., 1210A/24)

ADMIRAL SCHEER.

Photographic R/C of Hamburg at 1320A/24 shows that ADMIRAL SCHEER has left No. 5 floating dock. Cloud obscures remainder of Bloehm & Voss yard. (D.D.I.C., 2340A/24).

Technical.

Oiling at Sea.

My 1803A/23. C. in C. H.F. 1035A/23. Meeting on 30/10 will now be of preliminary nature limited to discussion of matters affecting C.in C. W.A.'s requirements. C. in C. W.A. should forward agenda for discussion. C. in C. H.F. should inform Admiralty when sufficient experience has been gained in order that full conference can be arranged. (4th S.L., 2203A/24).

Navigational.

Wreck buoy.

Wreck-marking buoy in 052° 47' 15" N., 001° 50' 40" E., extinguished after collision with ship in F.S. No. 27. (SHELDRAKE, 0015A/24)

South Shipwash Buoy.

South Shipwash buoy relit.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1150A/24).

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

Convoy E.C. 89. ROYAL STAR.	Arrived Humber with suspected damage to port shaft through fouling No. 56 buoy. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 0850/24).
HARTINGTON.	Arrival H.M.Tug FREEBOOTER, S.S. HARTINGTON in tow. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1317A/24).
ASSURANCE.	Your 1010/24. N.O.I.C. Londonderry will arrange for all survivors from ASSURANCE to be landed to Londonderry. On relief by SEAMAN and ST. OLAVES P.M. tomorrow return to Campbeltown with salvaged gear. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1659A/24 to FRISKY).
RENOWN.	RENOWN undocked today. (A.S. Rosyth, 1815/24).
NIGER, HAZARD, HEBE, SHARPSHOOTER, SPEEDWELL.	Request dates on which ships will be ready for service. (C. in C. H.F., 2215A/24).

Shipping & Convoys.

O.N.28.	Escort Unit 4.1.6 of five ships, S.O.in SAMPSON, will meet O.N.28. (Opnav, 0425/24).
P.Q.2. NORMAN.	If delegates not arrived, NORMAN is to form additional escort for P.Q.2 from position Z. Admiralty passtto NORFOLK and C. in C. H.F. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 0921C/24 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)
	Your 1252A/23. This is confirmed. (A.C.I.C., 0949/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
H.X.153.	Fine weather first 9 days of passage but 8 hours late at M.O.M.P. No stragglers. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D., 1054A/24 to Opnav),

/S.C.47.....

MOST SECRET.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

S.C.47. Many congratulations on again bringing in safely all the ships of your convoy S.C.47. (C. in C. W.A., 1211A/24 to Admiral Sir H.R. Crooke).

H.X.154 Warmest congratualtions on again bringing in safely your Convoy H.X.154. (C. in C. W.A., 1225/24 to Vice Admiral Fairbairn).

D.S.15. LANCASTER and CASTLETON detailed for D.S.15. (R.A.M., 1421/24).

P.W.55
W.P.55. BROCKLESBY, ATHERSTONE are to R/V with TYNEDALE at 1900/24 in estimated position 122° Portland Bill 7 miles and act as extra escort to P.W.55.
(ii) At 0001/25 all destroyers are to turn round and escort W.P.55 till daylight. Estimated position of W.P.55 at 0030/25 will be signalled. If contact is not made destroyers are to patrol South East of convoy route till daylight.
(iii) TYNEDALE and ATHERSTONE are then to proceed Plymouth BROCKLESBY to R/V with P.W.55.
(iv) 2 enemy destroyers now present in Cherbourg. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1422/24).
My 1555/24. 1 A/S Trawler, 1 Merchant ship straggling 15 miles astern of W.P.55.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1802/24)

GAELIC STAR. Shift all possible general cargo with crew so as to cool down refrigerated space for immediate loading salved cargo. Owners concur.
(D.T.D., 1555Z/24)

P,Q.3. My 1255A/22. For "Wednesday 29th October" read "Thursday 30th October".
(C. in C. H.F., 1626A/24 to C.S.10)

/Information. ..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Information to Neutral Consuls.

Certain Neutral Consuls are said to have been instructed to make every endeavour to obtain information regarding movements of shipping. Harbour Authorities and Shipping Organisations should be warned against giving shipping information to Neutral Consuls or their representatives. Shipowners have been informed accordingly. (D.N.I., 1841A/24)

C.T.5 "Cargo".

A.M.2231A/18. Convoy C.T.5. Route. From position Q.270° 6 miles from Oversay Light at 0900Z/31/10. to position E.56° 30' N., 20° 15' W., D.54° 30' N., 24° 00' W. C.51° N., 30° W.
2. In position D convoy C.T.5 meets and changes escorts with convoy "Cargo" at 1200Z/2/11.
3. Route for "Cargo" from position D through position E. to F. 56° 30' N., 11° W. Thence to North Channel. (D.O.D. H., 2318A/24).
Owing to unforeseen demands on C. in C. W.A. it is not possible to provide full escort for C.T.5 unless R.A.(M) provides 3 destroyers.
2. As it is however of great importance to carry out operation S.N.83 as soon as sweeping North West of Faeroes is completed C. in C. H.F. is requested to state whether Home Fleet can provide the escort for this operation.
3. If this can be arranged, R.A.(M) is requested to provide 3 destroyers for C.T.5 leaving U.K. on 30/10 sailing them as required by C. in C. W.A.
4. Necessary signals will be passed to R.A.(M) (A.C.N.S. H., 2339A/24)

Proposed Belfast-Heysham Ferry.

The Larne-Stranraer route for military personnel is now working at full capacity. To meet additional traffic, the War Office propose to start a service between Belfast and Heysham using a fast ship making one daylight crossing on four days per week.
2. Ships to receive air protection only.
3. Request your views.
(D.O.D. H., 2323A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

WILD SWAN. Escorts of O.S.9.G.

My 1220A/20. Subject to satisfactory trial intend sailing WILD SWAN p.m./24 to reinforce escort O.S.9.G.
(ii) When may WISHART be expected.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1116A/24 to Adty.)
925 Your 1020A/24 to F.O.C.N.A. only. Detach LAMERTON to refuel at Ponta Delgada so that she can rejoin convoy before VIDETTE has to leave.
(ii) Report via aircraft date of LAMERTON arrival at Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A. 2246A/24 to LEGION)
WILD SWAN sails 0001A/25 to pass through 037° 22' N. 019° 00' W. at 0600A/27 steering along approach route speed 14 knots to R/V with O.S.9.G. (F.O.C.N.A. 2222A/24 to Escort of O.S.9.)

Alleged violation of Spanish territorial waters at Gibraltar.

My 1744A/23. Add to para. 3 Spanish Consul General was present at meeting. Para. 4 the objections raised by Spanish authorities were fully investigated and cordial agreement reached Spanish Captain of Port has promised to notify Minister of Marine accordingly. (F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/24 to N.A. Madrid.)

Orders to DUNCAN.

My 1700A/23 my 0720A/24 and my 1216A/24. On parting company with CARNATION proceed along H.G.75's route until in convoy's vicinity. Join H.G. 75 as early as possible during daylight 25th. Remain in company until necessary to comply with my 1920A/24. (F.O.C.N.A. 1326A/24 to DUNCAN).
My 1326A/24. Remain with H.G. 75 until daylight/27. Further signal will be made rejoin O.S.9.G. Cancel my 1326A/24. (F.O.C.N.A. 1830A/24 to DUNCAN).

Entry to Gibraltar.

For N.C.S.O.'s. Merchant ships are arriving at Gibraltar without correct entry instructions. Attention is drawn to A.M. 1728/11/4 and in particular to the fact that the Examination Vessel has been replaced by the Examination Station at Rosia. (D.T.D. 1519A/24 to A.I.G. 26,19.)
At 1600 DUNEDIN STAR reported by aircraft in position 036° 35' N. 000° 53' W. and CITY OF LINCOLN 036° 29' N. 000° 42' W. E.T.A. Gibraltar about 0700/25. (F.O.C.N.A. 1822A/24 to V.A. Malta.)

/French.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

French Ships.	Gibraltar 0857 Survey ship ESTAFETTE, FORT ARCHAMBAULT, CEVENNES, FAUZON all full lorries on deck CAPITAINE DE DIABAT laden, with trawlers. AIGRETTE, LOUP DE MER westbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1657A/24).
Air Operations.	Attacked U-boat at 1705 in 36.24 N. 1202 W. Further details to follow. 1 Catalina escort COSSACK torpedoed 2359/23. Still Afloat. (200 Group 1823/24).
DINGLEDALE.	Has Tanker DINGLEDALE's time of crossing 025° (? west) been received by Portishead. (F.O.C.N.A. 1841A/24 to Admty.)
SURVILLE (French.)	Reference C.G. Lisbon tel. to M.E.W. no. 2024. SURVILLE reported loading beans and fish oil Faro for Oran. M.E.W. (?Section) British Embassy most anxious for her interception. (N.A. Lisbon 1850/24 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar).
A/C's for AUDACITY.	Your 1852A/22. It is not intended to base 802 Squadron ashore at Gibraltar. AUDACITY will leave U.K. with eight or nine Martlet Aircraft of 802 Squadron. Propose to disembark up to three aircraft at Gibraltar and place them in reserve for 802. Three spare pilots and 15 ratings would be disembarked with reserve aircraft. I hope accommodation can be found for these Officers and Ratings. Stores required will be held by AUDACITY. Propose C.O. AUDACITY, should make other arrangements with you on arrival. (D.N.A.D. 1900A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ANTWERP. BRIGAND.	E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 1000/25. BRIGAND not in company. (ANTWERP 2038A/24).
Signalling by Ships.	My 0001/1st May Sect. II para. 16. In view of unlikely reception by Gibraltar or other British shore stations of signals made on 500 K/Cs (600 M) when crossing 25° W., it is proposed that this signal should only be made on crossing this meridian by ships fitted with H/F transmitters and that ships not so fitted should not break W/T silence. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2045A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Movements....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

Movements of 36th and 37th Escort groups.

Your 1722A/20 and my 1928A/12/9. Every opportunity will be taken to exercise groups. The routine Boiler Cleaning of these ships is beyond capacity of local resources unless additional Boiler Cleaning parties are provided. It may be possible to take one or two in hand dependent on local commitments.
With present strength of Gibraltar forces use of these ships to assist local commitments is unavoidable. Local forces average six days out of seven at sea excluding Boiler Cleaning periods, and even so, great difficulty is found in meeting commitments. I feel that to leave visiting ships from Home Waters in Harbour whilst local forces work hard (or escorts are inadequate) would be unjustifiable, and inevitably cause discontent. (F.O.C.N.A. 2332A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)

South Atlantic.

Suspicious vessel sighted by PATOKA.

U.S.S. PATOKA reports at 1500/22nd 6 - 44 S. 34 - 26 W. vessel estimated 20 knots single mast crows nest forward low bridge amidships high stack aft apparently lying to manoeuvred high speed devious courses intercept this vessel various courses closed range 15,000 then withdrew into sun glare. Answered no signals. Inquiry Recife indicates not American or Brazilian. Ends. (Opnav 0823/24 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I. C. in C. S.A.)
United States Naval Tanker PATOKA which arrived at Pernambuco 23/10 reported having sighted at about 1500 hours local time/22, 25 miles E. of Natal, a suspicious vessel which may have been German raider. The vessel which had lines similar to a destroyer was about 10 miles inshore of PATOKA and going slow. She increased speed to 20 to 25 knots and headed for PATOKA. Latter changed course first E. then to N. each time other vessel changed course apparently in order to shorten range.
Finally PATOKA resumed southern course when other vessel stopped 7 to 8 miles distant. Shortly afterwards she laid down a heavy smoke screen and disappeared Westwards at about 1700 hours.
PATOKA made recognition signals and enquired name of other vessel. All signals remained unanswered. (R.O. Pernambuco 1220Z/24 to S.O.(I) Freetown, S.O.(I) Montevideo to R.A.S.A.D. S.A.S.)

/Contact...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Convoy C.M.18.

Repeats his 1055B/23. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1055B/24 to C. in C. E.I.)

Freetown.

Your 2132/27/9. The transfer of troops at Freetown from ship to ship or ship to shore is an ever growing commitment. For instance in a recent case there were over 2000 Officers and men and their baggage to be disembarkedfrom one ship "X" and distributed to four others and this at a time when there were 82 Merchant ships in harbour of which 54 had arrived on the same day as "X" above. There was then the subsequent embarkation of smaller number in X. The normal harbour craft are fully employed working cargo water fuel etc. and are not available for personnel. In any case tugs cannot go alongside the pier reserved for personnel.
Transfers were in fact made by using M.L.C's if 2 M.L.C's are sent to Gibraltar in accordance with your 2132A/27/9 it will be necessary to use M.L.C's ex Force Q which appears to be contrary to your 0110/30/8 nor will these craft be available if parent ships are employed elsewhere. Suggest 2 M.L.C.'s should be retained for use of S.S.T.O. (C. in C. S.A. 1158N/24 to Admty.)

Fuel oil at Walvis Bay for MILFORD. (sailing to St. Helena)

There is no furnace oil at Walvis Bay only 1200 tons Diesel Oil belonging to Shell Company. This stock of Diesel Oil is required for internal use ashore and only very small quantity is available for ships. In view of this suggest oiler be diverted to Walvis Bay to supply ships. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1215B/24 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 1215/24th, refers your 1615/23rd.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1535B/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

CARNARVON CASTLE for patrol.

Request you sail CARNARVON CASTLE as soon as ready, best speed to patrol calm area shown on Chart Y 191 to south of St. Helena and between Meridian Greenwich and 15° W.with preference for Northern half of this area. Probable duration of Patrol one week. Further orders will be signalled. Object, interception of possible U/Boat supplying ships. (C. in C. S.A. 1321N/24 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)
Your 1321/24. Have ordered CARNARVON CASTLE to sail on (corrupt group) A/S patrol weather permitting 0500/25.
This will entail complete postponement of practice and gun trials with new ammunition due to be carried out on 25/10 and 26/10. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1945Z/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

/WILD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

WILD SWAN. As the next W.S. Convoy will not leave U.K. till about 10/11 and in view of the heavy scale of attack now in the Gibraltar area it is considered desirable for WILD SWAN to remain at Gibraltar until arrival of WISHART which should be about 30/10.
2. You can of course sail WRESTLER without waiting for WILD SWAN if you wish.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1352A/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

Corvettes.
WRESTLER.
VANSITTART. Your 1141/9 and 2010/13.
1. Concur in your intentions for sailing of corvettes for refit.
2. WRESTLER should be sailed to U.K. for refit A.M. 1352/24 para. 2 refers.
3. Request you will make arrangements for docking VANSITTART on S.A. Station informing Admiralty. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1912A/24 to C. in C.S.A)

SEVERN. Owing to further fuel leaks having developed on passage stowage has been reduced to 65%. No. 1 oil fuel group port leaking badly into main ballast. Group is unusable. No. 3 oil fuel group port, small leak in main exhaust recess but group is usable. (SEVERN 1913/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

S.S. DIVONA, (attacked 21/10). WX. 1238A.229 24/10. Re. your X.914 23/10 and my I.192 21/10 at least 3 miles but not exceeding 4 miles off coast Northeast Ras Maamoura. No further details available other than those contained in my I.192 21/10. (H.Q. Malta, 0100/24 to Air Min.)

/CLAN .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

CLAN FERGUSON. (British) leaves Malta a.m./24 passes 036° 55' 012° 30' about 1830A/24 thence to 036° 31' 012° 00' and 036° 40' 011° 13' at about 0001A/25 thence close to coast to Cape Bon and must not be molested. (Capt. (S) 10 1017A/24 to UTMOST). Cancel my 1017A/24. Ship is returning to Malta. (Capt. (S) 10 1850A/24 to UTMOST).

SOKOL UTMOST. Informing Med. Fleet of movements as Capt. (S) 10 1320A/23. (Capt. S.10 1023A/24)

Information required. On each occasion of Warships or Merchant ships making the passage between Gibraltar and Malta a brief summary of attacks by hostile aircraft, surface craft and submarines is to be signalled to Admiralty for information.
2. Was Force "K" attacked whilst on passage to Malta. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1059/24 to V.A. Malta, F.O.C.N.A.)

Air Operations. Night 22/23 Oct. 4 Wellingtons attacked harbour works at Benghazi starting 1 medium fire in buildings east of customs quay and 2 small fires among railway sidings North East of inner harbour. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1214/24).

Soviet ships from Black Sea. Following from Admiral Kelly. Your 2132A/22. H.M. Ambassador is kept fully informed of all my activities. (N.A. Angora 1259B/24 to Admty.)

Enemy convoy. 2 Merchant Ships escorted by one destroyer sighted in 035° 24' 021° 00' at 1047B /24th, steering south. (Capt, (S) 1 1545B/24 to THRASHER).

Monster liners. Your 1944/10 (N.T. in W.D).
From dates of air attacks it appears that the policy of routeing Monster Liners to arrive at Suez during new moon periods has so far been successful but it is agreed that during moonlit periods a force of the strength you propose represents the bare minimum desirable.

Red Sea escorts. 2. The long endurance of sloops makes them more suited for ocean Escort of Convoys, from which essential duties no more can be spared.
3. As immediate action it is suggested, subject to concurrence of C. in C. E.I, that YARRA should be exchanged for FALMOUTH.

/A.A.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

A.A. escorts and protection.

4. I consider that HUNT class destroyers best meet your requirements for fast A/A Escort vessels. AVONVALE and ERIDGE have reached you, and HEYTHROP and FARNDALE are expected at Suez by 10/11.
5. All practicable steps are being taken to accelerate the departure of your next four HUNTS and it is hoped that building will have progressed sufficiently to allow these to be followed by a further four.
6. The one BANK Class in service is fully employed in the Western Approaches and two smaller vessels in the Irish Sea, all in areas where air attack is a daily expectation.
7. Ships leaving U.K. are provided with all possible A/A weapons and it is hoped that the Aden shuttle service and the visit of Admiral Dreyer will have improved local conditions in this respect. (V.C.N.S. 1600A/24 to C. in C. Med.)

Ammunition for Singapore.

In order to meet urgent operational requirements request you send to Singapore from Eastern Med. reserves 5,000 rounds 5.25 H.E. T.F. ammunition. This will be made good from U.K. (A.C.N.S.(W) 1626A/24 to C. in C. Med.)

Operation "Halberd".

Pass following to 828 Squadron Hallfar.
Your 1040A/23 S.O. Force H's 1557A/18 refers.
11 Albacore and 2 Swordfish started.
(ARK ROYAL 1638/24 to V.A. Malta).

REGENT.

Arriving Sanctuary 1100B/25 unless otherwise ordered, acknowledge. (REGENT 1701/24 to S.1)

Possibility of Attack on Alexandria by Boats.

After the success obtained at Gibraltar we consider it likely that an attack by human torpedoes and/or one-man motor boats will be attempted at Alexandria.
2. To assist in watching the approaches to the harbour one Type 271 R.D.F. set is being despatched by air. Experience indicates that in calm weather the apparatus should have a good chance of detecting even so small a target as a human torpedo on the surface.
To give it a fair chance, however, the zone of water being covered should be kept clear of patrol craft.
3. Re installing and operation. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1840A/24 to C. in C. Med.)

/HANS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.10.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

HANS SCHMIDT. Arrival 24th from Garrucho with some 7,000 tons iron ore. Will load here in general barrels resin and some aniseed. Expected sailing to-night 24th or tomorrow for Tarragona for olive oil. (Valencia, 1910/24)

Air Operations. Total 4 bombers approached 2136 hours and 0322 hours 23/24th October. Bombs on land and sea slight damage to civil and Government property Grand Harbour Area slight damage R.E. Store and materials Marino Pinto one civilian wounded. Night 23/24th Oct. 3 Wellingtons independent attacks Naples leaflets and total 8,750 lbs. bombs dropped from 8,000 feet. Time over target 2000 hours to 0145 hours. Results not observed. 3 Wellingtnns attacked Tripoli. Total bombs dropped 12,000 lbs from 3,000 feet to 8,000 feet. Time over target 1945 hours to 0315 hours. Day 24/10. 6 Hurricanes, bombers escorted by 11 fighters attacked railway and factory Ragusa 0708 hours total bombs dropped 960 lbs. burst target area complete surprise no opposition 5 Blenheims attacked factory Licata 1400 hours as alternative Castel Vetrano aerodrome which was under cloud 5,000 lbs. bombs dropped S.W. target railway line hit fire started in town. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta 2200/24).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.10.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Instructions to shipping. in event of war with Japan.

N.O.I/C's pass to N.C.S.O.'s.
(i) Should hostilities with Japan become imminent the policy in regard to British and Allied except Dutch shipping proceeding from Area 3 to Area 4 will be as follows:-
(ii) When signal "Seek refuge port" is made
(a) Ships west of longitude Colombo and bound for Area 4 are to call at Colombo for orders.
(b) Ships between longitude Colombo and 085° E., if bound Area 4, are to turn and proceed Colombo for orders.
(c) Ships east of 085° E., and bound Area 4 are to proceed to the nearest defended port in Burma Malaya or N.E.I.
(iii) Should war with Japan break out or signal "Immobilise" be made necessary steps are to be taken to prevent ships being used by enemy. If capture is inevitable, ships must be scuttled or engines and boilers seriously damaged.
(iv) If stopped at sea by Japanese warships after repeated after signal "Seek refuge port" has been made, confidential books are to be destroyed and immediate W/T message sent in plain language giving such details as time permits if and when released, further report is to be made.
(v) Trustworthy Masters are to be acquainted verbally and confidentially with foregoing and warned that, only maximum number of officers may be informed.
(vi) Dutch shipping is controlled by Dutch authorities but should be requested to conform generally.
(C. in C.E.I., 1218Z/24, to E.I. Station.)

AUSTRALIA.

My 0758/11 and my 0802/15.
One AUSTRALIA will leave Mauritius p.m./26 for Kerguelen and Crozet Island. Estimate she will be in former locality from 1st to 6th Nov., incl., and should arrive Durban 14th.
2. AUSTRALIA has been given discretion in visit to Crozet Island and knows she is required middle of November for convoy. But she has been told if weather is good chance should be taken to make a thorough examination of this group.
3. In fixing date for semi Monster convoy request allowance may be made for above and that she may be given a few days in harbour if possible.
(C. in C.E.I., 1438Z/24, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

MOST SECRET.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

TAI SEUN HONG. — Arrival 29/10. Saigon. (N.S.S.O. Hong Kong 02242/24.)

AWATEA. — A.M. 1654A/10. In view of the altered circumstances request you will provide Cruiser Escort for AWATEA from Manila to Hong Kong. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0553A/24 to C. in C. China.)

R.D.F. — Your 0915Z/15/10. I hope to ship four type 279 at the rate of one per month starting November for fitting in Dutch cruisers.
2. In addition seven sets of Type 290 by end of the year for Dutch destroyers.
3. Dutch may be given general information of R.D.F. vide C.A.F.O. 713/41.
(4) Arrangements have been made for Dutch R.D.F. officers to proceed N.E.I., to supervise fitting and for instruction of ratings locally.
(D.S.D. 1704A/24 to C. in C. China.)
Chinese General Staff report.
Japanese fleet fully mobilized and now at Sasebo. (b) 11 transports with Japanese troops including twenty guns (?arrived at) Haiphong 20/10 2 more divisions to follow.
(B.M.A. Chung King 1740/24.)
This is a possibility, and mobilization is confirmed by N.A. Tokyo.

Chinese Naval personnel. — Re training and employment in H.M. Ships. (Hd. of M. 2002A/24 to C. in C. China.)
See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

T.C.15. — Your 2033/21. All ships should be stored for Transatlantic voyage in T.C.15 plus a further two months with full complement of troops and crew.

/Essential.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

T.C.15. Contd.

Essential that sailing date of T.C.15 be maintained at 13.11 even if storing not completed.
(D. of S.T. 0217A/24 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

Suspicious Vessel sighted by PATOKA.

Following received from Opnav for transmission C. in C.S.A.
Repeats Opnav 0823/24. See S.Atlantic.
(B.A.D. Washington 0425R/24 to C. in C.S.A.)

LIVERPOOL.

My 0854R/16. Sailing of LIVERPOOL is delayed about one week.
(B.A.R.M. 1330R/24.)

A.M.C.'s.

Departures CHITRAL, AUSONIA, WORCESTERSHIRE, MONTCLARE for U.K.
(S.O.(I) Halifax 1921Z/24.)

M.V. COLUMBIA.

Your 1529Z/23rd not to C.N.A. U.S.A. Naval Authorities have granted permission to Swedish M.V. COLUMBIA Vancouver to use following anchorage in case of emergency (1) off Iliuliuk Bay (2) anywhere in Unalaska Bay.
Matter of granting similar refuge ports to all ships using great circle route is being considered and report will be forwarded later.
(C.N.O. Ottawa 2112Z/24.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

COSSACK.
(torpedoed 23/10.)

Forward part of COSSACK is completely wrecked. After (?part) floating and fit to tow position is 35 36 N., (?34)(?04) W. CARNATION standing by. (LEGION 0005Z/24 to R.A. Gibraltar.)
My 0005Z/24. CARNATION is fast to (? COSSACK) and will endeavour to take her in tow at daylight. LEGION remaining for A/S protection. Request air escort and tug. Weather sea slight wind N.W. three. Approx., number of survivors on board LEGION 43 CARNATION 47 COMMANDANT DUBOC 10.
(LEGION 0248Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Tug THAMES escorted by JONQUIL sailing at 0630A for 035° 36' N., 010° 04' W., to tow COSSACK to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0330A/24, to CARNATION.)
COSSACK sinking. Am rejoining convoy.
(LEGION 0500Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Arrival 0230 DUNCAN. Departed 0535 in accordance with my 0720 to R/V with C.S.9 G. Departure JONQUIL with Tug THAMES to tow COSSACK.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0636A/24 to Adty.)
LEGION 2255Z/23 and 0005Z/24 and my 0330A/24 DUNCAN sailed 0530A/24 with surgeon and medical supplies, then in execution of previous orders.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0720A/24 to Adty.)
LEGION rejoining convoy forthwith CARNATION ceased towing providing A/S protection. Expect escort of Catalina Aircraft at 0930 Call Sign M.9 H.H.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0724A/24 to LEGION, CARNATION.)
Am proceeding to assistance of COSSACK, E.T.A., 1845 in 35 36 ?10 04.
(HERMIONE 0839A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
COSSACK afloat in 35 40 N., 09 50 W. CARNATION providing A.S. protection. Has steam and pumps keeping water under control. Bows, most of bridge and foremast gone. Expect Tug will R/V daylight 25th. Weather up to date suitable for towing. About 100 survivors in all.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2330A/24 to Adty.)

S.S.ARIOSTO
(2176 tons.)

ARIOSTO torpedoed and sunk.
(ROCHESTER 0550A/24 to Admiralty, F.O.C.N.A.)

Unknown Ship.

From Wick Radio, Intercept at 2036 G.M.T. on 500 Kcs. DE Unknown Station begins:-
S S S S. Signals very weak and interference heavy, nothing further heard. Ends. No bearing obtained.
(Scapa W/T T.O.R.2154/24 to A.C.O.S.)

/VANCOUVER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.Contd.

VANCOUVER ISLAND. (torpedoed 15/10.) — Request you will report result of PICTOU'S search for VANCOUVER ISLAND.
(C. in C.W.A., 2311A/24 to C.C.N.F.)

H.G.75. CARSBRECK ALHAMA sunk. — LEGION reports CARSBRECK and ALHAMA sunk during night 23/24. 57 survivors in COMMANDANT DUBOC.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2356A/24 to Adty.)

Submarines Reported.

H.G.75. — At 1238A/24 F.W.'s homeing U-Boats onto H.G.75.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1254A/24 to Escorts of H.G.75.)
3 U-boats are probably being homed on to convoy from N.E. 2 of these were (?90) miles away at noon.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1938A/24, to Escorts of H.G.75.)

2252/23. — There were indications of a possible U-Boat within 100 miles 019° S., 010° W., at 2252 23rd. Reliability 60%.
(C. in C.S.A., 1423N/24 to S.A.Sqn.)

Estimated U-boat Dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1443A/24.)

1516 by HERMIONE. — 1 Submarine bearing 112° distance 8 miles course 260° my position 36° 37' N., 11° 8' W.
(HERMIONE 1516/24, 1600/24.)
My 1556 ? S/M has dived my position (as before.)
(HERMIONE 1518/24.)

1516A. — 036° 45' N.,011°42'W., at 1516A/24 course 260°.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1559A/24 1739A/24 to S & A.,N.A.Stn.)

1035 G.M.T. — By D/F 042° 001 N., 009° 30 W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1739A/24 to S & A., N.A. Stn.)

1142
1148
1209
1153
1218
1442 — German U-boats fixed by D/F bearings. At 1142 within 15 miles of 037° 10' 009° 51'. At 1148 within 60 miles of 037° 40' 010° 00'. At 1209 within 60 miles of 037° 40'011° 00'. At 1153 and 1218 within 15 miles of 037°30'010° 30'. At 1442 within 15 miles of 038°00' 012° 00'. All times G.M.T. and all positions N.and W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1927A/24 to S & A., N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By PICTOU. Your 0958/23 preliminary report. PICTOU chased U-Boat on surface from 0330/17 until 0430/17 when very promising attack carried out on U crash diving - speed attained by PICTOU 195 RPM to overhaul. During chase two torpedoes certainly and a third possibly fired from stern tubes at PICTOU. Suggest all escorts be warned to avoid wake of U-boats when chasing, further report follows then other escorts return here.
(Capt. D. N.F. 1402Z/24 to C. in C.W.A.)

By A/C 1705/24. See North Atlantic. (200 Group 1823/14.)

By LAMERTON. Am attacking (?Enemy Submarine) in 37 12 N., 11 30 W.
(LAMERTON 1830A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Contact lost at 1826 A after 2 attacks. Area thoroughly swept am rejoining convoy.
(LAMERTON 2000A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy Intelligence.

The two German Destroyers reported at Cherbourg at 0830 yesterday were no longer there at 1100 today and are believed to have passed Cape Gris Nez eastwards at 0230 this morning taking a course not previously followed to the Westward and Northward of the Outer Ruytingen Bank.

Two 6000 Ton German supply ships and one 400 Ton Tanker, all loaded and escorted by one Patrol Boat, are reported to have arrived in Floro Harbour from the south at 1700Z yesterday and it is believed that they may round Stadtlandet northbound today.

W.S.12 X.

Convoy W.S.12 X, consisting of 6 American and possibly 1 British Troop Transports and carrying 20,000 British Troops transhipped from Convoy C.T.5, will leave Halifax on 9/11 for the Middle East by way of Trinidad and the Cape, and will be escorted as far as Cape Town by U.S. forces.

Force G.

Force G. (PRINCE OF WALES and 2 Destroyers) with HESPERUS sailed from the Clyde at 1346A today for Freetown and Singapore.

White Sea.

A/S Nets are being laid in the White Sea Approaches and Masters of M/Vs concerned are to be warned against marking the net positions on their charts.

British Air Activity.

Yellow Warning discontinued.

From 1500/28 the "Yellow Warning" on the National Warning system will be discontinued.

The believed position of PRINZ EUGEN at Brest was bombed last night by 6 Stirlings who found the whole town covered by a smoke screen.
7 A/C attacked Emden.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

At 1255 today one A/C attacked two Colliers in Skaalo Fiord, Faroes without result; and at 1816 Convoy E.C.90 was bombed without result off Southwold.

In North Russian waters enemy air R/C is reported today to extend as far as 72° N. and 42° E.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

Mines were detonated yesterday and today by sweepers in the Thames Estuary and C. in C. Nore has ordered two Motor Minesweepers to be sailed as soon as possible to Sheerness from London.

Avonmouth was closed at 2255A tonight owing to suspected minelaying.

North Atlantic.

S.S. CITY OF LINCOLN and DUNEDIN STAR, sailing independently have arrived at Gibraltar. Both were attacked by aircraft and claim to have damaged the enemy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

CARNARVON CASTLE left Capetown this morning to carry out a patrol for a week to intercept possible U-boat supply ships in the calm area south of St. Helena between the meridian of Greenwich and 15° W.

DORSETSHIRE left Freetown today for patrol to intercept possible enemy supply ships.

Mediterranean.

Malta. — 24 enemy aircraft approached Malta today. 4 crossed the island and dropped bombs intended for the Grand Harbour and setting on fire the Government fuel dump.

Libya and Western Desert. — 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night. 4 Wellingtons attacked shipping and the harbour at Benghazi last night.

LATONA sunk. — Fast minelayer LATONA was attacked by aircraft at 2015 today 30 miles north of Bardia; the after magazine eventually blew up and the ship sank at 2220. Continuous bombing attacks took place during the rescue operations and HERO was damaged whilst alongside LATONA, though perhaps not seriously.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. SALABANGKA was reported being pursued by a S/M at 1950 today in 43° 41' N. 37° 58' W.

S/M FERRARIS sunk by LAMERTON.

At 1240A today LAMERTON reported that she had sunk Italian S/M FERRARIS in 37° 27' N. 14° 33' W. and was picking up the crew. LAMERTON sustained slight damage from shrapnel.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Dover. Request for A.L.Cs. and M.G.Bs.

A.L. M/PDO503/41 23 October. It is considered essential that assault landing crafts and crews should be allocated to Dover for combined training as soon as possible.
5 assault landing craft is considered a suitable number and information is requested when these could be made available.
M.G.Bs. D type would be invaluable as supporting craft and if necessary 4 boats of 5th Motor Launch Flotilla could be surrendered for 4 boats of this type. (N.O.I.C. Dover, 1248A/25 to Admty).

A.S. Trawlers preparing for Arctic service.

F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1152A/22 and F.O.I.C. Liverpool's 0953A/22.
2. Request you will signal your intentions on the following points:-
A. From what base are these ships to work? These ships are unable to maintain themselves.
B. Do you wish these Trawlers to be formed into Auxiliary A/S Groups? If so presumably this should be done in 2 Groups on basis of present refitting ports.
3. If not required for convoy escort immediately on completion of refit suggest trawlers carry out a few days A/S practices at Tobermory.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1725A/25 to C. in C. H.F.)

Flag of V.A.2.

Cancel my 1204. Flag of V.A.2 now hoisted in RENOWN. (RENOWN, 1859/25).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Co-operation in event of Heavy Units breaking out.

Following received from Opnav. Repeats Opnav 22322/23. (A.C.N.S. H., 1256A/25 to Cs. in C. H.F., W.A., A.W.I., etc).

Co-operation with Russia.

Communications. S.B.N.O. North Russia 1136C/24.
Request confirmation teleprinter circuit between Murmansk and Archangel is now in operation and what transmitter will be used by Archangel for communication to Murmansk.
2. Request information what W/T arrangements are in force for communication from ships within about 100 miles of Archangel with that place as institution of a Port Wave appears desirable. Watch on this may be continuous or at Routine periods according to personnel available.
3. On receipt of your reply, Admty General Message Home will be issued. (D.S.D., 1317A/25 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.10.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

S/M 14. Leave patrol after dark/25 through following position diving by day to R/V with LOCH MONTEITH in 135° Bressay Light 7 miles at 0730 A/27 for onward passage to Scapa. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange for fighter protection from Bressay to Scapa. (Capt. S.9., 0221A/25 to S/M 14.)

A.F.D.14. My 1840/24. Sailing postponed. Master considers weather unfavourable. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0910/25).

MAORI. Subject to trials being satisfactory MAORI should now complete P.M./28th. Following proposed sailing programme. (F.O.I.C. London, 1301/25).

D.19. The present intention is that you should sail on 1/11. (A.C.NS. H. 1318A/25 to D.19)

Force G. Sailed Force "G" and HESPERUS routed as in C. in C. W.A 1249A/23. Codeword "Sultan" E.T.A. Freetown 1000Z/5. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1346A/25).

MONTCLARE, AUSONIA. On arrival at Clyde it is intended that MONTCLARE and AUSONIA should proceed to Falmouth and Cardiff respectively to be fitted for Tropics. 4. C. in C. W.A., is requested to sail MONTCLARE and AUSONIA and to arrange escort if necessary with C. in C. Plymouth. (D.O.D. H., 1401A/25).

SEAWOLF. Cancel my 0912A/24. SEAWOLF leaves Needles 1700/25 routed as follows to R/V 180° Lizard 5' at 0730/27.
SEAWOLF has orders not to proceed beyond position 090° Start Point 10 miles before 0700/26. (Capt. S.5., 1401A/25).

WISHART. Intend to sail WISHART to Gibraltar leaving Plymouth 1200/26 routed through 044° N., 15° W. Request F.O.C.N.A., issue onward routeing instructions to Gibraltar. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1524/25).

/AURANIA.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

AURANIA, ASCANIA, WOLFE, MALOJA.	My 0013A/23 and 2137A/24. 1. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail AURANIA, ASCANIA, WOLF, and MALOJA in company to Southampton. 2. N.O.I.C. Londonderry is to sail STORK, IBIS, and ABERDEEN as escort to R/V as arranged by F.O.I.C. Greenock. 3. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested sail ships to conform with C. in C. Portsmouth's 1103A/23. (C. in C. W.A., 1613A/25).
SUPERMAN.	Intend sailing SUPERMAN for Gibraltar in accordance with Admty 2321A/29/9 in Convoy O.G.76 leaving Clyde A.M./28. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1654A/25).
JAY, MYRLAND, KENNET.	My 1758/15/10. JAY now at Greenock with engine defects, which will take at least 4 days. Propose delaying sailing of MYRLAND and KENNET now at Campbeltown until JAY is ready. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1858A/25).
Information for ROYAL SOVEREIGN.	SEALION escorted by WHITE BEAR proceeding through Minches to Scapa may be met about 0400A/26. (C. in C. W.A., 1901A/25 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN).
SUFFOLK, IMPULSIVE, ESCAPADE.	1500A/25 arrived, Seidisfiord with IMPULSIVE, ESCAPADE. Intend to sail 0800A/26 for Scapa, E.T.A. 1600A/27. (SUFFOLK, 1641Z/25).
LA CAPRICIEUSE.	Delayed by landing injured ratings from H.31 at St. Ives. Sailed St. Ives 1820A/25. (LA CAPRICIEUSE, 1831A/25).
M/Ls. on Escort Duty.	My 1613A/25. M.Ls. 146, 145, 149, 150, 151, and 230 returned owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 2144A/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Pantaloon".

Expect possibility considerable delay completion loading. Persistent local fog. If vessels could find suitable berths southside Glasgow might expediate by avoidance long Road/Lighter journeys. (R.A.F.E.O. Glasgow, 1131 /25 to Air Ministry).
R.A.F.E.O. Glasgow, 1131/25. Berthing of ARGUS and ATHENE on South Side of River at Glasgow is not recommended for the following reasons. Loading of ATHENE is proceeding at her present berth at Dalmuir Basin, after trial today which was successful. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1949A/25 to Admty).

Type 63 Trial.

Intend to carry out type 63 long distance trial on 28/10. PRINCE ALBERT will sail 0930A/28 and check alignment of beacons between seaward end of QZS 215 and Isle of Man. Thence as follows. PRINCE ALBERT will return to Liverpool on completion.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1703A/25).

East Coast Patrols.

Patrol tonight (1) Two M.G.Bs. Q.E. three shifting to Q.E. four A at 0200/26th.
(2) Two M.Ls. Q.E. four A, shifting to Q.E. six A at 0200/26th.
(C. in C. Nore, 1709A/25).

British Air Activity.

"Yellow" Warning.

From 1500/28 the "Yellow Warning" on the National Warning System will be discontinued.
(D. of L.D., 0941A/25)

Patrols.

"Trost", "Stab" "Bert" "Stand" and "Hornli" are being flown also P.R.U. Kristiansand and Oslo. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1120/25).
My 1120/25. Delete "Trost" and "Stab".
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1509/25).

821 Squdron.

821 Squadron is to move to Machrihanish on 28/10. (R.A.N.A.S., 1316A/25 to Hatston)

/Bombing.....

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

Bombing operations.

On Night 24/25 six A/C attacked believed position of PRINZ EUGEN at Brest, but cloud prevented accurate observations. After one aircraft had circled Brest for an hour the cloud lifted but the whole town was covered by a smoke screen. The docks at Ostend and Calais were also bombed. (H.Q.B.C. 1615/25.)

Escort for Force G.

You may expect air escort of one Liberator from dawn 26th.
(C. in C.W.A., 1649A/25 to Force G.)

A/C from EAGLE.

EAGLE, ARGUS, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY, E.T.A., 1000/26. Weather permitting intend to fly off two Hurricanes to Belfast and 18 Swordfish to Machrihanish.
(EAGLE 19052/25 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Enemy Air Activity.

1 (one) Enemy Aircraft, believed Junkers 88, attacked Colliers LAKELAND and STELLA PEGASI in Skaala Fiord at 1255 today. All bombs missed, and no casualties or damage sustained. Aircraft was engaged by ships and shore defences, and believed damaged.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1515A/25.)

Convoy E.C.90.

Enemy bombing convoy USAOE 62° 19' N., 1° 59' E.
(VERSATILE 1816/25.)

Reported (B.1) enemy air R/C as far as 72° N., 42° E. Admiralty pass to NORFOLK.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 21590/25 to NORFOLK.)

Mining.

EMILION sunk LUCIENNE JEANNE. (M/S Trawler) and M.M.S.19 damaged.

On 24/10. (1) H.M.T. EMILION sunk by near mine.
(2) M.M.S.19 damaged by near mines.
(3) H.M.T. LUCIENNE JEANNE damaged and beached by near mine. Details.
(Capt. M/S. Sheerness 00254/25.)
LUCIENNE JEANNE damaged by near mine at 1937/24 and beached in about 016° B.4 Buoy 1.5 miles. Vessel subsequently turned over at 0130 and is now under water. Only casualties two slightly injured.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0452/25, 1041/25.)

/Thames.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. Contd.

Thames Estuary.

Two S.A. mines detonated on ~~24~~/10. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0914/25.)
One S.A. mine detonated at 1002/20. Details.
(Capt. M/S.Sheerness 1001/25.)
Two motor minesweepers are to be lent temporarily to Sheerness. Request they be sailed as early as possible.
(C. in C. Nore 1007A/25 to P.O.I.C. London.)

Sweeps off Dover.

Sweeping carried out to 0800/26.
By S.A.Trawlers. Q.Z.S.191 and in Q.Z.S.190 and 269 between Dumpton and Dover. By L.L.Trawlers and S.A.Trawlers. Q.Z.S.258. Negative results. Q.Z.S.238 and Convoy route as in my 1931A/5 by S.A., and Oropesa Trawlers in progress.
(V.A. Dover 1216A/25.)

Operation J.X.

Para. 4 of my 1907/25 amend as follows:
WELSHMAN is to lay (A) MANXMAN (B)
They are to leave Portsmouth in company at 1715/25 and E.A.3 buoy at 1900 and thence by Q.Z.S.271, MANXMAN at 20 knots and WELSHMAN at 15 knots to Shoreham light buoy (C 5), make departure from that position at 2000/25 and 2015/25 respectively. On completion of lay MANXMAN is to return to Southampton passing south of Q.Z.S. 324 to make Shoreham light buoy and by Q.Z.S. 271 arriving E.A.3 at 0700/26, and WELSHMAN is to proceed to Plymouth to reembark books passing through following positions and passing breakwater at 0830/26.
Attention is called to movements. PRINCE LEOPOLD. WELSHMAN should not be west of position.
(A) above before 0200/26.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1403/25.)
Sailed WELSHMAN and MANXMAN.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1753A/25.)

S.N.83.

Admiralty 2339/24. It is understood that 2 destroyers to (? of) 17 division would now be sufficient for C.T.5. If this is confirmed it would leave one of my destroyers free for S.N.83.
(R.A.M. 2153/25 to Adty.)

Sweep of Q.Z.S.293.

N.C.S.O. Portsmouth's 1413/25. 5th M/S Group is to be sailed to sweep QZS.293 to eastward and westward during daylight hours to-morrow, returning to Portland before dark. Route is to be swept independently of convoy movement.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1723/25.)

/Avonmouth.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.10.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Avonmouth. The Port of Avonmouth is closed until further orders owing to suspected minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2255A/25).

Falmouth Loops. F.O.I.C. Falmouth reports "H D A" B and C lined up. "A" defective and will require lifting Request loop layer may be sent for this purpose, as LASSO is returning to Plymouth in accordance with Admiralty's 1342A/24. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2310/25).

Enemy Intelligence.

3 Ships at Floro. Report graded B.2. states two German supply ships each 6000 tons and one tanker 400 tons all loaded and escorted by one patrol boat are lying alongside in Floro Harbour. They arrived from the south at 1700Z/24. (D.D.I.C., 0039A/25).
Two German supply ships each 6000 tons and one tanker 400 tons all loaded may round Stadtlandet northbound today. Grade B.2. (F.O.S., 0224A/25 to S/M 0.14).

Two probable Destroyers. Two vessels plotted by R.D.F. passed Cap Gris Nez at 0230, course easterly, speed 30 knots. (V.A. Dover, 0321A/25)
My 0321A. Course taken by vessels probably 2 destroyers, was close past Number 3 buoy (four miles North of Sangatte) to Western end of Outer Ruytingen Bank and thence along the Northern edge of this bank to W. Buoy where plot faded. Such a course has not been previously followed but has always been considered a likely one for valuable ships. (V.A. Dover, 0923A/25)
My 1210A/24. The two destroyers were no longer in Cherbourg at 1100/25. There were indications that they passed Cap Gris Nez eastwards at 0230/25. (D.D.I.C., 1705A/25).

E-boats. Suspect E.boat activities. (C. in C. Nore, 2220/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Methil. Commodore of E.C.89 reports No. 18 buoy appeared to be drifting with light burning 0200/24. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1004/25).

Dover. No. 7 light buoy off station. Now in 51° 93' 00" N., 1° 21' 08" E. Request Q.Z.H. (V.A. Dover, 1555A/25)

Moray Firth. 901 Q.Z.H. No. 36 light buoy reported damaged and extinguished. (Hydrog, 2220A/25)

Casualties & Defects.

BEAGLE. BEAGLE arriving Clyde with broken foremast. Request approval to fit 286 P. whilst mast is being repaired. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1221/25).

ST. BRIAC. Your No. 8605B/125 of 13/10. Ten-day work on water tanks of ST. BRIAC approved. (R.A.N.A.S., 1231A/25 to N.A.S. Arbroath).

AMHERST. Your 1449Z/14, your 1222A/15, and C.O.A.C. Halifax's 2050Z/14. AMHERST has not (?had) boilers cleaned internally since she was built and in addition has oil fuel in her boilers. She will be taken in hand as soon as possible. (HECLA, 1534Z/25 to C.C.N.F.)

Barge (ARDENZA) Your 0216/16 and my 0629/16. A/C from Dyce sighted a barge with green tarpaulin covers in 57° 25' N., 3° 59' E., at 1155 today. Barge was drifting South. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1817/25 to D. of S.T.)

Motor Vessel (CITY OF PRETORIA). Following received from N.C.S.O. Mersey begins:- CITY OF PRETORIA reports having collided with small motor vessel at 2017/23 about 5 miles West of No. 6 buoy approach Swansea Channel. Ship stopped and turned searched in vicinity with Aldis Lamp and no sign of vessel seen. Search lasted for half hour and then resumed course and speed for Liverpool. T.O.O.1800/25. Ends. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 2152/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.3. — You are requested to ensure that radiators of all vehicles, prime movers and generators, etc. embarked are drained before convoy P.Q.3 sails. (D.T.D., 1108A/25 to A.C.I.C.)

Proposed Belfast-Heysham Ferry. — A.M.2323A/24. No objection in present circumstances. (C. in C. W.A., 1130A/25).

Convoy. — Not met. VOLUNTEER in company position 058° 50' N., 025° 10' W. (V.A. (VANOC, 1130Z/25)

ARIGUANI. — My 0810. COMMANDANT DUBOC also in Company (VIDETTE, 1246/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.12 X. — Convoy W.S.12 X. consisting of 6 American and possibly one British troopstransport, carrying 20,000 British troops transhipped from C.T.5, speed of advance about 14 knots, will leave Halifax on 9/11 for Middle East via Trinidad and the Cape.
2. U.S.A. are providing escort from Halifax to Capetown. Escort onwards as arranged by C. in C. S.A. and C. in C. E.I.
(D.O.D. F., 1300A/25).

O.G.76.
S.L.92.
BRADFORD. — BRADFORD is to be sailed with O.G.76 to Gibraltar subsequently return with S.L.92 F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail BRADFORD to join S.L.92. (C. in C. W.A., 1740A/25)

D/F Guards by M/Vs. — It is important that Escorts should be aware of arrangements made for D/F Guards by Merchant Ships and Commodores should be informed accordingly.
2. D/F Guards should be placed close to the Commodore for easy signalling.
3. Commodores have complained that N.C.S.I.251 is not always complied with.
(D.T.D., 1756A/25).

/Nets in.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.10.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

Nets in White Sea Approaches.

Action is being taken to warn shipping in the sense of your 2241B/23. (D.of L.D., 1932A/25 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)
Nets are being laid in area enclosed by following positions and it is closed to all shipping.
2. All vessels routed to these waters are to be informed accordingly and warned that information is secret.
3. Masters of merchant vessels to be warned against marking the lines on charts.
4. No Q.Z. message will be issued.
(D. of L.D. 1935A/25).

P.Q.2.

Admiralty 1859A, August30th para. 3. Arrangements made for arrival P.Q.2. Fighter protection during daylight between 66° N., and 68° N., to cover arrival.
Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and NORFOLK.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2201C/25 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

WILD SWAN. — My 2222/24 vessels sailed.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0008A/25 to Escort O.S.9.)
Your 2246/24 A.M./26.
(LEGION 0812A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Fuelling at P. Delgada. — Request arrangements may be made to fuel ELECTRA, EXPRESS and HESPERUS at Ponta Delgada. Each ship requires 300 tons and E.T.A. 29/10.
(N.O.1/c Greenock 1004A/25 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)
ANTWERP arrived Ponta Delgada 1230 G.M.T./25. MALINES left 1200 G.M.T. Ships will proceed in company along route laid down when ANTWERP has fuelled.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1232/25.)

SAN JUAN. — After further investigation am releasing SAN JUAN Seville to Ceuta aviation timber and grain.
(SCOTTISH 1210A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Ships. — Gibraltar 1419/25. Destroyer BRESTOIS, S.S. SAINTE-MARTIN, LIBERIA, ANDORRE all full. SAINTE-LUCIEN laden eastbound.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1931A/25.)

WISHART. — Route Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2246A/25.)

LISBOA. FRONSAC. — Departure 25/10. LISBOA Genoa. Arrival 25/10 FRONSAC. (Barcelona 1251/25.)
Arrival 25th LISBOA German.
(Barcelona 1300/25.)

CITY OF LINCOLN. DUNEDIN STAR. — My 0720A/25. CITY OF LINCOLN and DUNEDIN STAR report :-
1. Two "E" boats sighted by CITY OF LINCOLN at 0145/23 1.5 miles off shore when approaching Cape Bon. Boats were stopped, but started up engines passed under stern of ship and disappeared.

/2 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CITY OF LINCOLN. DUNEDIN STAR contd.

2. At 0800/23 position 37 26 N. 09 25 E. single aircraft believed Breda 88 approached CITY OF LINCOLN from astern and fired three short bursts. Then made off towards DUNEDIN STAR who opened fire scoring several hits. Aircraft last seen losing height and making for African Coast. At this time ships were about 8 miles apart.
3. Italian seaplane believed Cant 506B shadowed ships from 0900/23 until 1523.
4. Three Italian bombers believed Savoia 79 or 85 made unsuccessful low level attack on CITY OF LINCOLN at 1512/23 position 37 13 N. 70 5 E. which was repeated by same aircraft at (1520/23?) only damage sustained by ship was port paravane carried away. Aircraft engaged by ships guns both attacks and hits claimed. One aircraft damaged and last seen being escorted by the shadowing Italian seaplane. Otherwise clear run through for both ships.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1724A/25 to Adty., V.A. Malta.)

South Atlantic.

WRESTLER.

Request arrangements be made for WRESTLER to fuel at St. Vincent 31/10 about 230 tons required.
(C. in C. S.A. 0407N/25 to B.C. St. Vincent.)

CARNARVON CASTLE.

Capetown departure 0745Z/25 October, CARNARVON CASTLE for patrol to South of St. Helena in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1321/14 and 2205/24.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0932Z/25.)

PRINCE BADOUIN.

Your 1215/24 and my 1609/24. Unless you have an oiler handy that you can send to Walvis Bay PRINCE (?BADOUIN) is to fuel from these stocks taking minimum amount required to reach Simonstown. DERBYSHIRE pass to PRINCE BADOUIN on meeting.
C. in C. S.A. 1437N/25 to N.O.i/c Simonstown.)

/DORSETSHIRE ...

MOST SECRET.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

DORSETSHIRE. — Leave Freetown 2200/25 October to patrol in H.33 D.H.34 C. Object possible enemy supply ships.
(C. in C. S.A. 1547N/25 to DORSETSHIRE.)

Mediterranean.

Information for REGENT. — PROTEUS and KIPLING and 3 M.Ls will be exercising in approx. (? 272° or 340°) Ras-el-Tin 18.5. Trawler AMBER and convoy expected 1200.
(Capt. (S) 1, 0705B/25 to REGENT.

KELVINBANK. — With fire in number 3 hold ran aground at Perim 24/10. Ship now refloated and proceeding to Aden. Fire still smouldering.
(S.N.O. Red Sea 0824Z/25)

Force K. — Your 1059/24 para.2. No.
(V.A. Malta 0847A/25 to Adty.)

Enemy Intelligence. — 3 Merchant Ships one auxiliary 039° 30' 011° 25' course 060° 8 knots at 0830A/25.
(Capt.(S) 10, 1026A/25 to SOKOL.)

CLAN FERGUSON. — If CLAN FERGUSON has not sailed she is to be held at Malta.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1149A/25 to V.A. Malta.)

Air Operations. — 4 Wellingtons attacked Naples 1944 to 2308/24. 10/10 Low cloud and rain over target. Some bombs dropped target area remainder over approx. position. No results observed.
1 fire started Sicily by incendiaries. Severe electrical storms. Opposition medium inaccurate.
6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli 1910/24 to 0250/25. Majority of bombs in target area.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1845/25.)
Night 23/24 October, 4 Wellingtons bombed docks at Benghazi starting fire on base of Central mole. Further bombs burst on Central and Cathedral moles and near small ships off Italian mole.

/3 F.A.A. ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Operations contd.

3 F.A.A. Albacores dropped flares over Bardia to illuminate harbour for bombardment by H.M. ships. Bombs also dropped on the north and south headlands at the entrance of the harbour caused explosion on the latter.
A Beaufort on sea R/C sighted 2 ships 1000 tons by destroyer and M.E.110 190 miles due north of Tolmeta steering south. Beaufort dropped 2 250 lb bombs 20 yards from the stern of one M.V. and machine gunned its decks subsequently avoiding the attack of the M.E.111.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1226/25.)
Malta. At 0840/25 24 enemy aircraft approached 1053 hours 4 bombers crossed island dropping bombs and intercepted by Hurricanes. 1 enemy bomber probably Cant Z.1007 badly damaged, 1 Macchi 200 smoking wreckage of another Macchi found in sea. Hurricane missing search in progress. Government fuel dump set on fire and 7 houses damaged attack intended for Grand Harbour. 3 slight civilian casualties.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1830/25.)

UNBEATEN.

Established patrol in the vicinity 037° 02' (?029°) 29' in anticipation of similar operation as in my 1041A/20. Enemy forces may return afternoon of 27th.
(Capt. (S.10) 1243A/25.)

C. in C. Med. takes over Red Sea.

My 1219 18th. Amend para 8 second sentence to read N.O.i/c Suez will be in command under S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area of Ports in Suez Bay and Sidi Barrani local Defence Craft.
(C. in C. Med. 1944B/24 to S. and A. Med.Stn.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Light buoy. W.C.78 Bahrein South Sitrah Light Buoy not burning.
(S.O.(I) Colombo 0422Z/25 to Adty.)

Security of U.S. vessels. Your 0726Z/23. The question of security of United States vessels being endangered by shipping information despatched by cable in plain language or insecure code has been taken up with Navy Department. Their reply will be promulgated on receipt.
(Adty., 1331A/25 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

Dutch Cruiser. to join convoy escort. 185 Z.M. has asked that Dutch Cruiser may join escort of first convenient Fremantle - Singapore Troop Convoy in order to give experience to Officers and Men. I am strongly in favour of this proposal. Do you concur?
(C. in C. China 0249Z/25 to A.C.N.B.)

GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER. Arrival 25/10.
(Adty., 0445Z/25 to M.W.T.

AWATEA. Your 0553/24. This will be arranged.
(C. in C. China 0531Z/25 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

AVILA STAR. PIORUN. AVILA STAR - part company in position U at G.M.T., 1000Z/25. (?My) E.T.A., at Halifax 0830/26.
(PIORUN 1130Z/25 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

Ships proceeding from Balboa and W. African Ports to Singapore. C. in C. China 0315Z/20. Do you concur?
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1132Q/25 to A.C.N.B.)

/ALCANTARA....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

ALCANTARA.
QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

ALCANTARA could be accepted for refit job number S.151. QUEEN OF BERMUDA tentative date of completion is 15/12.
(B.A.R.M. Washington, 1402R/25.)

T.C.15.

My 1917Z/24. M.W.T., representative states T.C.15 ships will not take any freight which will release ships earlier for embarkation if 13/11 must be maintained. Request very early decision. Arrangements provide for transhipment commence as early as possible 7/11.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1503Z/25 to Adty.)

S.S.AVILA STAR.
GARLAND.

Left AVILA STAR at 0930 G.M.T. in 043° 56'055° 34". O.R.P.GARLAND unable to keep her course and speed owing to weather conditions. My present course 290° altering to course 265° in 044° 059° 01" at 1745 G.M.T.
(GARLAND 1610Z/25 to C.O.A.C.Halifax.)

Raider report.

Br. ship IDOMENEUS reports 6/10 at 0550 G.M.T. in 039 S., 158 W., heard loud QQQ made once only last Q fading out sender estimated 200 miles distant.
(S.O.(I)Jamaica 1627R/25.)

DESPATCH.

Intend sailing from Jamaica in DESPATCH p.m./26 arrival a.m./29.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1831R/25 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Targets.

2 Targets which might possibly have been used by raider have been sighted.
(1) By SYDNEY 1800Z/3 in 010° 10' S., 104° 50' E.
(2) By Dutch AGOENG 14/9 in 017° 09' S., 106° 26' W.
(A.C.N.B., 1145Z/25.)

MOST SECRET .

25.10.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.S. VANCOUVER ISLAND (Torpedoed 15/10) — Due to a regrettable error in coding in CHAMBLY PICTOU was sent to the wrong position and failed to find any trace of VANCOUVER ISLAND. Full report being forwarded by air mail. (C.C.N.F. 1458Z/25 to C.in C. W.A.).

S.S. SALABANGKA. — SALABANGKA chased by Submarine 1804/25. (Halifax N.S. 1810/25). Following from Opnav S.S. SALABANGKA is being pursued by a submarine. Position 43 41 N 37 58 W. (Spenavo 1950/25 to Adty).

S.S. SERBINO (Torpedoed 21/10) — ASPHODEL arrived Clyde with 51 survivors from S.S. SERBINO. (F.O.I.C.Greenock 2014A/25).

COSSACK. — My 2330A/24 COSSACK in tow speed 3 knots JONQUIL CARNATION providing A/S Escort. STELLA CARINA joining A.M. 26th. (F.O.C.N.A. 2238A/25).

Submarines Reported.

1116Z/24. — Captain of westbound clipper sighted submarine at 1116Z/24 in 38 54 N 14 20 W steering 124° about 12 knots submarine painted unusual light grey and made no signal.(C.in C. A.W.I. 06490/25).

1055A — In 037° 06' N 014° 20' W at 1055 A 25th. (F.O.C.N.A. 1131A/25).

1130A — U-boats by D.F.B. within 30 miles of 039° 20' N 019° 30' W 1130A/25. (F.O.C.N.A. 1257A/25).

Estimated U-boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1346A/25).

1530 — One S/M sighted 036° 38' N 002° 10' E course N. 5 knots at 1530/25. (V.A.Malta 1915A/25 to RORQUAL).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25. 10. 1941.
Saturday.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

FERRARIS sunk by LAMERTON.

Have sunk submarine by gunfire in 037° 27' N 014° 33' W. Am picking up crew. (LAMERTON 1240A/25).
U-boat thought I was corvette remained on the surface. U-boat was Italian FERRARIS. LAMERTON has sustained slight shrapnel damage on forecastle. No casualties. (LAMERTON 1316A/25).

By BEVERLEY 0030A/23.

Preliminary report. (Capt. D Londonderry 1654A/25). See Lion copy.

By LAMERTON 1730A/24.

From Survivor's story it appears probable that German U-boat working in co-operation with Ferry (corrupt group) was destroyed by LAMERTON in 037° 08'N 011° 30' W at 1730 A/24 unless any other Destroyer attacked in this area. (LAMERTON 1735A/25).

202 Squadron 2 Catalinas escort H.G. 75. Dawn to dusk. U-boat sighted 1055. Position 3705 N 1418W. Not attacked. Later surrendered to LAMERTON. Escort area 1400 W to 1520 W. 1 Catalina escort EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. Dawn to dusk. Not met. Area covered Gibraltar to 0400 E.
209. Squadron. 1 Catalina escort COSSACK in tow with tug THAMES. Dawn to dusk. Area covered 3535 N 0750 W to 3536 N 0748 W.

By A/C 1720.

My A 565/24/10 G/202 attacked U-boat 1720 hours position 363 N 1132 W. On surface when sighted. Crash dived. 4 depth charges dropped. Only 1 exploded 1 hit U-boat without exploding. No damage observed AVONDALE took up hunt. A/C in area 90 minutes. (200 Group 1840/25).

By A/C 1622 Z.

A/C reports unsuccessful attack on enemy S/M in 51° 14' N 53° (?40') W at 1622 Z/25. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1858Z/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked shipping off the Dutch coast; 3 ships are believed to have been damaged off the Texel.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy W.P.56 was reported being attacked at 2027 today in 50° 7' N., 3° 1' W. No damage is reported.

Mining.

Operation J.X.

WELSHMAN and MANXMAN laid mines off Dieppe last night.

VALOROUS reports that during an attack on convoy F.S.30 in 53° 24' N., 0° 57' E., aircraft at 50 feet dropped 2 sticks of bombs near the head of the convoy each stick including a parachute mine.

It is thought that enemy aircraft were engaged in mine laying operations off Yarmouth last night.

Bristol Channel.

Avonmouth was closed at 1830A until tomorrow. Owing to suspected minelaying all Bristol Channel ports including those on the Somerset coast were closed at 2218A today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

It is reported that a convoy of 5 French ships and possibly one German, escorted by a sloop and possibly a S/M left Tamatave on 24/10 or will leave almost immediately for France, C. in C. S.A. has been instructed to intercept them if sufficient forces can be made available.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

3 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night and 3 Benghazi. 8 Marylands attacked Benghazi today.

C.S.7 in AJAX and 3 destroyers with 2 Naval Albacores dropping flares and bombing the entrance to the harbour bombarded Bardia harbour last night; first reports indicate that the bombardment was effective.

East Indies.

AUSTRALIA left Mauritius today for Kerguelen and Crozet Island.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and U.S. destroyer SOMERS are searching for suspected enemy raider reported by U.S.S. PATOKA in 6° 44' S., 34° 26' W., on 22/10.

U-Boat Campaign.

CORABELLA. S.S. CORABELLA reported being attacked by a U-boat at 1434N today in 4° 9' N., 5° 45' W., CORABELLA apparently defended herself with her gun and at 1650 G.M.T. it was reported that the S/M had disappeared having apparently broken off the action and at 2005Z, CORABELLA reported all well. The Admiralty consider it possible that this U-boat was a minelayer repeating the operation which caused the sinking of ST. ANSELM (30/6/41) at Accra.

COSSACK JONQUIL reported at 2110A that she had taken off the remainder of COSSACK's crew and the position was critical.

GLADIOLUS lost. GLADIOLUS is now considered to be a total loss. (See 21/10)

H.G. 75 ARIGUANI torpedoed. Fighter Catapult ship ARIGUANI escorting H.G. 75 was torpedoed in the early hours of today in 37° 46' N., 16° 8' W.

Belle Isle Straits. Two U.S. Fortress aircraft have been sent to search for a U-boat which was reported at 1622/25 70 miles E.S.E. of the Western entrance to Belle Isle Straits.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Flag of V.A.2.

3. C. in C. H.F. 1037A/23. Flag of V.A.2. was transferred to RENOWN at 0900/24. (V.A.2. 0923/26).

Signalling by Ships in Atlantic.

Your 2042/24. Concur, but in view of the importance of these reports it is proposed that the equipment of fast merchant ships with H/F transmitters should be given high priority. (C. in C. W.A. 1044A/26 to Admty.)

Trawlers for Arctic service.

Your 1725A/25.
Para. 2.(a). Intend these trawlers with 73rd A/S Group, should be operated from Reykjavik by A.C.I.C. as local escorts for North Russian convoys. Home Fleet charge document H.Y. refers.
(II) Para. 2 (b). Concur.
(III) Para. 3. Trawlers HUGH WALPOLE, CAPE ARGONA, STELLA CAPELLA will be required for local escort of P.Q.4 and will not be able to carry out A/S practises if present date of sailing is adhered to.
(IV) Consider that most satisfactory arrangement for operation of local escorts for these convoys would be for 73rd A/S Group and the 6 large trawlers to be transferred to Iceland Command and for A.C.I.C. to provide inward and outward local escort from total trawler force at his disposal. (C. in C. H.F. 1358A/26 to Admty.)

AKABAHRA. (Norwegian.)

AKABAHRA released at 1900 in accordance with S.O.N.T's 1758A/26th and instructed to proceed in accordance with his instructions. (NORTHERN SUN 2130A/26).

Polish Airmen for U.K.

Your 1526/22. Discussed with Air Ministry. Regret no prospect of sending a troopship specially for these Polish airmen.
2. Some of cargo ships now at Archangel or en route from U.K. are fitted for small numbers of personnel. If desired this accommodation could be used on return journey but total fitted for in ships of P.Q.2 is only 72 and in P.Q.3. 165. (D. of S.T. 2325A/26 to Ad. Miles.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TRINIDAD. My 1756/25. Intend to sail TRINIDAD for Greenock escorted by KUJAWIAK as far as Lundy Island at 0800/26. (C. in C. Plymouth 0020/26).
Sailed TRINIDAD, KUJAWIAK. E.T.A. Clyde 0730/27. (C. in C. Plymouth 0840/26).

SCOTTISH AMERICAN. My 1153/19. Oiler SCOTTISH AMERICAN returned to Hvalfjord. (A.C.I.C. 0104/26).

EAGLE. ARGUS. Arrived EAGLE and ARGUS escorted by FURY, FORESTER, and FORESIGHT. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1136A/26).

JAY. Your 1858A/25. Approved. (D.M.S. 1203A/26 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

WISHART. Sailed 1210. E.T.A. at position (F) 2359/27, destination A.M. 30/10. (C. in C. Plymouth 1228/26).
WISHART has been routed through following positions. (C. in C. Plymouth 1725/26).

LOCH MONTEITH. 0.14. P.35. Delayed by weather. Swept (100%) as far as 175° Fair Island 15 miles. E.T.A. 0700/27. (LOCH MONTEITH 1415/26).
Your 0221A/25. Attleast 5 hours late at R/V. (0.14. 1800A/26 to Capt. S.9).
Cancel my 1703/26. LOCH MONTEITH is to R/V with Netherlands S/M 0.14 090° Out Skerries 7 miles at 0930A/27 and escort her into Lerwick. N.O.I.C. Lerwick is requested to sail LOCH MONTEITH and Netherlands S/M 0.14 to arrive Scapa 0800A/28. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail LOCH MONTEITH and P.35 to arrive Dundee 0900A/29 and to arrange fighter protection for both movements. (Capt. S.9. 2207A/26 to LOCH MONTEITH).

PETUNIA. Have completed with fuel and returned Julianehaab Tug not yet arrived. (PETUNIA 1701Z/26 to A.C.I.C.)

/SUNFISH.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

SUNFISH. Anticipated that SUNFISH will be ready for towage from Tyne to Portsmouth on 1/11.
2. Request you will make arrangements for this passage with C. in C. Nore and C. in C. Portsmouth.
-3. Tug will be provided by Admiralty.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2119A/26).

NORMAN. NORMAN sailing from North Dvina L.V. 0900 tomorrow Routed close to coast until longitude 040° 33' thence to northwards keeping West of this meridian. S. of A. 18 knots. Admiralty pass to NORFOLK. (S.N.O. Archangel 2200C/26 to LEDA).

CAIRO. Owing to mining of Bristol Channel CAIRO is to proceed into Milford Haven and is not to enter Bristol Channel.
(N.O.I.C. Cardiff 2239A/26 to CAIRO)

Operations.

Operation "Pantaloon". A.M. 1937A/21 and 1942A/21. ARGUS and ATHENE should be loaded and ready to sail by P.M./1/11. (A.C.N.S. H. 1101A/26).
A.M. 1937A/21. Anticipate completion of loading A.M./30. (ATHENE 1116A/26).

East Coast Patrols. My 1017/26. All patrols withdrawn on account of weather. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1447A/26).

British Air Activity.

Operation "Barnowl. At 1953-2100/25, made 3 runs over Southend Anchorage. Particulars. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 0850/26).

Patrols. "Hornli" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1001/26).

Ship bombed off Egersund. 3000 tons ship attacked by aircraft and left burning in 058° 26' N. 005° 51' E. (C. in C. Rosyth 2204/26 to MINERVE).

Suspicious Ship. Ops. 118, 26/10. Suspicious M/V flying American colours reported in PL/W6/26/10 not to be attacked pending orders from H.Q.C.C.
(H.Q.C.C. 2342/26 to 19, 15, 16 Groups).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Faroes bombed. One or more enemy aircraft carried out R/C over Faroes today. Four bombs were dropped on Klaksvig at 1250 where damage to civilian property is reported but no casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1710A/26).

Convoy W.P.56. "Stencil" being attacked by enemy aircraft in 50° 7' N. 3° 1' W. (Falmouth 2027/26).

Convoys "Zero" and "Plumb". Following received from VALOROUS. My 1813 and 1835. Attack was by 3 or 4 Dorniers who circled Convoy in broad daylight at 50 feet. Two sticks of bombs dropped near head of Convoy. These fell about 53° 24' N. 0° 57' E. 2102/26. (C. in C. Nore 2259A/26).

Mining.

WELSHMAN. Arrived 0838. (C. in C. Plymouth 0912/26).

Bristol Channel. My 2255A/25. Avonmouth will be open from 1100 today. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0948A/26).
The Port of Avonmouth is closed until 1130A/27. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1830A/26).
Owing to suspected minelaying all Bristol Channel ports including those on Somerset coast are closed until further notice. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 2218A/26).

Thames Estuary. Three S.A. mines detonated on 24/10 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1001A/26).
4 Mines have been detonated in the last 24 hours, namely, 2 S.A. Mines and 2 Magnetic Mines. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1201A/26).

Operation J.X. MANXMAN arrived 0830. Nothing to report. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1233A/26).

Thames Estuary. One magnetic mine detonated at 1125/25. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1434/26).
Two S.A. Mines detonated at 1116/25 and 1853/25. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1443/26).

Off Humber. Following received from VALOROUS. My 1813 and 1835. Attack was by three or four Dorniers. Aircraft circled convoy in broad daylight at 50 feet. Two sticks of bombs dropped near head of convoy. Each contained a parachute mine. These fell about 053° 24' N. 000° 57' E. Mines reported in my 1835 did not detonate. Another dropped near VALOROUS is thought to have done so. 2102/26. Ends. (C. in C. Nore 2259A/26).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

North Russia.

(2 corrupt groups) boat report of White Sea shows they are most likely to be met.
(a) at night 20 miles of position 300° Cape Kanin 30
(b) by day within 12 miles of position 070° Gorozinski 15.
(2) There is no evidence to show more than 2 on patrol indication probably (?only)
(3) Weather permitting air patrols carry out air patrol to Cape Kanin and three islands area using Ju. 88 and occasional He. 111 formations up to six have been observed so far bombing has been inaccurate.
(4) Up to present there has been no real evidence that enemy mines White Sea.
Admiralty pass C. in C. H.F. NORFOLK, and S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1235C/26 to Admty).

Casualties & Defects.

Convoy E.C.90
ENGLISH TRADER.

Reported ashore Hammond Knoll. Tug sent from Yarmouth. VESPER investigate and report situation. (C. in C. Nore, 0543A/26).
Great Yarmouth. Departure Tugs DIVERSION and ST. MELLONS at 0720A to assist ENGLISH TRADER aground Hammonds Knoll.
(C. in C. Nore, 0721A/26).

Convoy F.S.30
RINGEN,
THORE HAFTE.

Norwegian steamer RINGEN from F.S.30 entered Hartlepool, reports damaged in collision with unknown steamer. Norwegian Steamer THORE HAFTE from F.S. 30 arrived Tees, also damaged in collision. (N.C.S.O. Middlesbrough, 1020/26)

Trawler ashore.

A.C.O.S. 1254/18/10 reference code word "Pulley". Trawler is now ashore off Cairnbulg (QK5487) Request fighter protection until further notice while salvage operations are proceeding.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1140/26 to 14 Group)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN escorted by DULVERTON and ANTELOPE arrived Clyde. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1144A/26)
Serious leaks are being found in A.F.D.IV as tanks are examined. It is, however, hoped to dock ROYAL SOVEREIGN but de-ammunitioning and de-oiling will be essential which, owing to limited facilities for de-ammunitioning, may delay the operation. All necessary efforts are being made. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1316/26)

/AURANIA.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

AURANIA. Chief Salvage officer is of the opinion that, in view of the unknown effect of the barrels which are partly supporting AURANIA, serious consideration should be given as to prudence of exposing vessel to any possibility of bad weather.
2. He recommends that vessel should be patched in Kames Bay and brought back to about original draught before any sea voyage is contemplated. Furthermore vessel cannot sail in convoy in present trim, owing to erratic behaviour. (S.O.W.P., 1200A/26 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

CORIOLANUS. Arrival H.M.T. CORIOLANUS with steering defect. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1229/26)

BORDER KING. Fraserburgh arrival BORDER KING with engine defects. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1325/26)

TANGO. Arrival TANGO at 1745 with unspecified damage due to weather. (F.O. Humber, 1830A/26)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.N.97
EDINA. Your 1120/24. EDINA arrived. (N.C.S.O. Aberdeen, 0340/26).

GLENARTNEY. Bearing and distance 223° 245 miles from J 0845 G.M.T./26. (GLENARTNEY, 0430 G.M.T./26)

MACBETH,
HAMLET. Sailed H.M.T's MACBETH and HAMLET in accordance with your 1414A/22.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 0458A/26)
Convoy is delayed 48 hours. Return to Stornoway.
(C. in C. W.A., 1048A/26 to MACBETH, HAMLET)

C.T.5. Your 2153/25. As far as can be foreseen at present two destroyers will be sufficient for C.T.5 and it is requested that names of destroyers detailed may be signalled as soon as convenient.
(C. in C. W.A., 0910A/26 to R.A.M.)
Your 0910. NEWARK and CHARLESTON detailed for C.T.5. (R.A.M., 0929/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

/P.Q.2.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

P.Q.2.

NORFOLK (?NORMAN intended) will not be sailing for R/V P.Q.2. LEDA, GOSSAMER, HUSSAR have been ordered to R/V position Z. They have no R.D.F. working. S.B.N.O. North Russia inform NORFOLK. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1046C/26 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)
Following received begins.
S.B.N.O. North Russia repeated NORFOLK from S.B.N.O. Archangel.
Delegates expected very shortly. NORMAN will not be sailed for R/V with P.Q.2. LEDA, GOSSAMER, HUSSAR have been ordered to R/V at position Z. They have no R.D.F. working 1046C/26 Ends.
Admiralty pass to NORFOLK.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1615C/26 to NORFOLK).

Nets in White Sea Approaches.

A.M. 1935A/25. Cancel para 4.
(D. of L.D., 1206A/26).

E.C.89

S/M Section escorted by WHITE BEAR north bound may be met during the night.
(C. in C. W.A., 1646A/26 to Escorts E.C.89)

Cargoes for Russia.

Following ships now loading in U.K. are expected to reach you about 10/11. Full details.
(D. of S.T., 1653A/26)
See Lion Copy.

AURANIA.

S.O.W.P.'s 1200A/26 (See Casualties) AURANIA is not to be sailed in present condition. Request you will report action being taken and in due course when ship will be ready to sail. (A.C.N.S. H., 2148A/26 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

E.C.90

E.C.90 already 12 hours late due to weather. Sailing arrangements for ships joining this convoy should be deferred until receipt of N.C.S.O. Methil's telegram indicating intended time of sailing from Forth.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2219/26).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

W.P.B.57. My 1309A/26. W.P.B. 57 will not be sailed owing to extensive minelaying in Bristol Channel. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2314A/26).

W.S.12 Z.
C.T.6. Sailing date for W.S.12 Z and C.T.6 will probably now be 10/11. (D. of S.T., 2329A/26)

H.X.3
S.L.90. Intend leaving H.X.3 1200A/27. Request I may be informed estimated position of S.L.90 at 1000A/1. My present position is 32° 16' N., 41° 20' W. (HILARY, 2350A/26 to S.O.W.P.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Enemy Units. D/F bearings on 5660 Kc/s and 4796 Kc/s between 2253/25 G.M.T. and 0638/26 G.M.T. were all on units in area about 37 N. 16 W.
(D.D.I.C. 0830Z/26 to A.L.U.S.N.A.)

Ships at Ponta Delgada. HOLLYHOCK Fleet Tug BRIGAND arrived Ponta Delgada 0800 and 1000 G.M.T. respectively 26th.
ANTWERP left 0700 G.M.T.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0902/26.)
LAMERTON arrived Ponta Delgada 1430 G.M.T/26th.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1500/26.)
LEGION arrived Ponta Delgada 1915 G.M.T/26th.
LAMERTON, HOLLYHOCK left 1900 G.M.T.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1725/26.)

Escorts of H.G.75. My 1850A/24. Remain with H.G.75 until limit of prudent endurance reporting in accordance with para.5 my 1750A/21.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1016A/26 to DUNCAN.)
Your 1405. Rejoin convoy H.G.75 as soon as possible after fuelling. VIDETTE not with convoy.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1628A/26 to LAMERTON.
VIDETTE is to rejoin convoy H.G.75 forthwith and remain with it until limit of prudent endurance. (F.O.C.N.A. 1658A/26 to VIDETTE.)
If my 1658A/26 was not received before 2100 take no action on it.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2211A/26 to VIDETTE.)

S.S. HERMIA. Your 2316A/25. Following is a repetition of my 1208A/24 to Admiralty. Air photographs of French S.S. HERMIA (1068 gross tonnage) in 36 46 N. 00 36 W. on 18/10 indicates clearly that tricolour plaque before name on Hull has been expunged and replaced with white ball diameter about 2/3 depth of plaque.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1046A/26 to Adty. for D.N.I.)

DOMINE. Your 1547A/22nd (N.T.in W.D.) boarded DOMINE. Ursula de Armas was landed at Port Shepstone.
(ALOUETTE 1125A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Communications. Your 2042/24 (? 2045 intended). Concur it is undesirable for ships not fitted with H/F to make fruitless attempts to contact Gibraltar on 500 Kc/s.
2. Suggest that they should be instructed to indicate their P.C. and S. when operator considers ship is in range if not then met by escort.

/3 ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Communications contd. 3. It is also desirable that the routeing authority should report when a vessel is sailed without H/F.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1154A/26 to Adty.)

SURVILLE. My 1850/24. Every indication that SURVILLE will sail p.m./26.
(N.A. Lisbon 1154/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 1134/26. Final loading delayed. Expected to sail p.m./27.
(N.A. Lisbon 1701/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

JOAO PESSOA. Arrived Bilbao 24/10 to load iron ore.
(Bilbao 1654/26.)

CAUDEBEC. Have intercepted Vichy French CAUDEBIC Lisbon to Casablanca with wood. Ship's navicert. Request instructions.
(SCOTTISH 1905A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Recognition Signals by A/C. When approaching Gibraltar single seater fighter aircraft which are unable to flash the recognition letter of the period by Aldis or fire pyrotechnics are to rock their wings frequently during the approach to Europa Point. When the aircraft is recognised it will be acknowledged by a series of Rs. These instructions will be included by the Admty. in S.P. 02312 and by the Air Min. in S.D.158(3)
(D.N.A.D. 1916A/26.)

South Atlantic.

French Convoy "Ration" to be carried out. Report graded A2 that French Ships CAP PADARAN, CAP TOURA : COMPIEGNE, BANGKOK and COMMANDANT DORISE sailed from Tamatave on 24/10 for France escorted by D'IBERVILLE. Report continues graded A3 (R) A3 that German ship, is also included in this convoy and possibly submarine as additional escort.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0832B/26 to Adty.)

/In ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

French Convoy "Ration" to be carried out.-Contd.

In corroboration of my 0832/26. Censorship Mauritius of personal messages dated 24th October reveals imminent departure of convoy from Tamatave.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1530/26 to C. in C. S.A.)
S.O.I. Capetown's 0832B/26. Operation "Ration" is to be carried out against convoy of Vichy French ships reported to have left Tamatave on 24/10 if sufficient forces can be made available.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2345A/26 to C. in C. S.A.)

WRESTLER.

Cancel my 0407N/25. (C. in C. S.A. 1030N/26 to B.C. St. Vincent.)

Suspicious Vessel.

Suspicious vessel sighted by U.S. oiler in 006° 44' S. 034° 26' W. at 1500Z/22 estimated speed 20 knots single mast crows nest forward low bridge amidships high funnel (?raised).
(C. in C.S.A. 1605N/26 to LAVENDER, BERGAMOT.)

Air Escorts.

3 Catalinas escort H.G.75. Dawn to dusk. Area covered 1700 W. to 1830 W. 1 Catalina escort COSSACK and 2 Tankers (BRITISH FREEDOM) (VELMA) to S.W. dawn to dusk. Area covered Gibraltar to 0730 W. 209 Sqdn. 1 Catalina escort H.G.75. Dawn to dusk. 1 Swordfish 816 Sqdn. escort EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. 60 miles East. 1100 to 1400. Not met. My A565 24/10 for AVONDALE read LAMERTON. Latest information now suggests LAMERTON's attack successful.
(200 Group 1845/26.)

Convoy.

My 1606N/26th.* WALLFLOWER and SOUTHERN PRIDE remain with convoy.
(C. in C. S.A. 1750N/26 to WALLFLOWER, SOUTHERN PRIDE.) * U-Boat attacking CORABELLA.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

P.34. Leave patrol p.m./26 through 038° 20' 012° 35' 038° 20' 012° 00' and 038° 00' 011° 44' making passage Q B B 65 during daylight/27 to arrive Malta by north west channel a.m./28.
My 1204A/25th attempt to communicate with TETRARCH by S S T on 27/10. P.34 and UPRIGHT are not to attack S/Ms encountered in area (?L) night 26th 27th Oct. Other movements follow.
Capt. S.10.1046A/26 to P.34.)

URSULA, UNBEATEN, UPRIGHT, UTMOST. S/Ms mentioned are to leave patrol and return to Malta as follows :-

	Leave P.M.	Through (i)	Through (ii)	Arrive Malta.
URSULA.	26/10	036°57' 016°15'	035°51' 015°15'	0530A/28.
UNBEATEN.	28/10	035°51' 015°15'	036°00' 014°53'	0630A/30.
UPRIGHT.	28/10	Q. B.	B.29/10 65.	North West Channel. A.M.30/10.

P.34 - See my 1046A/26th.
UTMOST move to area K. after 0001A/27th.
(Capt. S.10 1047A/26 to 10th S/M F.)

UPHOLDER URGE. Leave patrol today 26th. to arrive Malta before 1800A/27th or at (?06)30A/28 UPHOLDER through 035° 20' 012° 40' and 035° 38' 014° 07' URGE through 035° 45' 012° 40' and North West Channel other submarine movements follow.
(Capt. S.10. 1135A/26 to UPHOLDER, URGE.)

Air Operations. 22/10 morning. Sunderland dropped 2 250 lb. bombs from 500 feet on enemy submarine sighted breaking surface 50 miles North East Aboukir at same time machine gunning it. Both fell 12 yards from submarine which dived before Sunderland made second run. Further bombs dropped but effect unobserved. Position reported to 2 destroyers. Yogoslav DO 22 on afternoon patrol sighted very large patch of oil about 110 miles North of Alexandria.
Night October 24/25. 4 Wellingtons attacked shipping and harbour Benghazi. Damage unobserved owing to haze but bombs burst on Cathedral Mole and railway siding.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1149/26.)

/Night ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Operations contd.

Night 25/26 October 3 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli. 48 250 lb. bombs. Total 12,000 lbs. dropped singly. Time over target 7½ hours. Hits observed Karamanli Mole.
Day 26/10. Bad weather.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 2013/26)

Assistance to Yugoslav patriots.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No.187 to Cs.in C. Med. and M.E.
With reference to C. in C. M.E. Tel.No.O/17614 dated 23/10 :-
(1) We have no aircraft available with longer range than Wellingtons with extra tanks.
(2) According to our information rebels hold certain aerodromes and are in touch with M.E. by wireless. If this is correct, could you not arrange with them to light an aerodrome on agreed night and attempt to drop by parachute at least some medical supplies, and perhaps hand grenades.
(3) This would be an immense encouragement, and might well justify diversion of one or two Malta Wellingtons from other operations.
(4) We have not yet received your further cable in reply to our C.O.S.186.
(1st S.L. 1153A/26 to C. in C. Med.)

LATONA sunk.

(?LATONA) attacked by A/C at 2015/25 in position (?350 degs.) 30 (?miles) Bardia. Ship hit in after engine room and badly on fire. After magazine eventually blew up and ship sank at 2220. Continuous bombing attacks during rescue operations and HERO damaged by near miss whilst alongside LATONA. HERO returning to Alexandria at 14 knots with damaged steering gear (?escorted by) 2 destroyers. Casualties in LATONA not yet fully ascertained but (?do not) appear heavy.
(C. in C. Med. 1532B/26.)
Your 1527/26 fortunately LATONA was only carrying 38 other ranks to Tobruk remainder to number of about 1000 were in 3 accompanying destroyers.
About 15 low bombing attacks between 1900 and 2230.
Casualties LATONA Naval Officers 4 missing one wounded, ratings 25 missing, 17 wounded. Army Officers 6 wounded. Other ranks 7 missing, one wounded. HERO no casualties.
(C. in C. Med. 1922B/26)

/Situation ...

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26.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report. No. 161.	My 1332/26 LATONA was on passage to (?Tobruk) with ammunition stores and 34 military personnel in last serial of operation "Cultivate". Casualties 4 officers, 26 ratings and 7 soldiers missing. Damage to HERO mainly electrical and may not be serious. Ship was able to return (?at) 22 knots, and had no casualties. (ii) DAMIETTA from here. Operation "Cultivate" completed. 7138 troops were transported (?to) Tobruk and 7234 including 727 wounded returned to Alexandria. About 1000 Australian troops remain in Tobruk as destroyer with LATONA did not complete last serial. C.S.7 and 3 destroyers bombarded Bardia area night 25/26 and first reports indicate bombardment effective. Other bombardments carried out night 23/24. "A" Lighters temporarily withdrawn from action service to refit. (iii) All corvettes and A/S craft fully employed in Levant on escort duties. (iv) Malta. Force K at sea night 25/26. Report not yet received. (C. in C. Med., 2034B/26)
Enemy force.	Enemy light force proceeding North at high speed may be encountered during the night. (Capt. S.10 2317A/26 to UTMOST, P.34. UPHOLDER, URGE, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

YARRA.
FALMOUTH.

A.M.1600/24 para.3 (i) YARRA is to be sailed to Red Sea forthwith to relieve FALMOUTH (ii) S.N.O.R.S. is requested (a) to state port to which YARRA should be sent (b) to sail FALMOUTH on relief to Persian Gulf.
(C.in C. E.I. 0714Z/26 to S.N.O.P.G.,S.N.O.R.S.)
C.in C. E.I. 0714Z/26. YARRA sailed from 026° 43' N 050° 55'E for Red Sea at 1045Z/26. Speed 12 knots.
(S.N.O.P.G. 1044Z/26 to YARRA, C.in C. E.I.)

China.

Sharp Peak Island.

Consul Foochow reports Japanese evacuated Sharp Peak Island 25th. Island on which is cable station in possession of Chinese irregulars. Chinese regulars under Admiral Li endesvouring to help. Assistance of British warship requested. I am sending destroyer from Hong Kong.
(C.in C. China 1203Z/26 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

MAROPE.

Arrival 26/10 MAROPE.
(R.A.F. 120 Tampico 1110/26.)

Ships to work up in U.S.A.

Your 2123A/7. (i) U.S. C.N.O. sees no objection to this proposal on the ground of infringement of neutrality and accepts it in principle. (ii) Target services, however, are generally inadequate for U.S. Atlantic Fleet and those used by Pacific Fleet are concentrated in Hawaiin

/ Waters

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Ships to work up in U.S.A. (contd)

waters. In many instances improvised target and towing arrangements have had to be used. (iii) U.S. C.N.O. cannot therefore guarantee to furnish target or training facilities whenever required. (iv) If application is made in sufficient time for individual ships U.S. C.N.O. will judge in each case whether limited target and training facilities can be provided.
(B.A.D. Washington 1119R/26 to Admty.)

MORDEN.

Your 0510Z/26 (N.T. in W.R.) should have been addressed C.C.N.F. Establish patrol off eastern entrance Belle Isle Strait. Any merchant ships sighted making for Strait are to be escorted into Gulf of St.Lawrence. Area of patrol normally should be west of 055° W and between 051° 30'N and 052° 15'N. Report date you anticipate you will have 30% fuel remaining. Acknowledge.
(C.C.N.F. 1739Z/26 to MORDEN, C.O.A.C.)

INDOMITABLE.
CARADOC.

Bermuda arrival, INDOMITABLE, departure CARADOC in accordance with my 0932Q/24.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1803Q/26.)

STEEL ENGINEER. (U.S.A)

Due Balboa 19/10 from Honolulu not yet arrived.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 2311R/26 to D.N.I. Ottawa.

T.C.15.

Your 1503/25 and 1917/24. Confirmed that (a) T.C.15. Ships are not to load cargo and (b) sailing date of 13/11 is essential. Request confirmation that this can be maintained.
(D.of S.T. 2326A/26 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

W.S. 12 X.

Reference A.S. 1300/25 B.A.D. Washington has reported fuel and water requirements of W.S. 12 X as follows. At Trinidad 11000 tons fuel 4400 tons water at Capetown 15000 tons fuel 10500 tons water. Separate signal will be made regarding fuel but request confirmation that satisfactory arrangements can be made for water supply. What period of stay will be required at each port.
(D.of S.T. 2328A/26 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad., P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.

LE TRIOMPHANT's 0500Z/22. In view of other urgent commitments at Singapore request you will report if docking defects mentioned in LE TRIOMPHANT's para 3. can be taken in hand concurrently with defects in para. 2.
(D.O.D. (F), 1651A/26 to N.Z.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.10.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARIGUANI. ARIGUANI torpedoed in 037° 46' N., 016° 08' W.
(LEGION 02352/26.)
My 0235Z VIDETTE standing by.
(LEGION 04052/26.)
My position 37° 50' N., 15° 55' W., ARIGUANI, HELIOTROPE and CAMPION in company. Situation to ARIGUANI will (?remain) afloat both propellers and rudder damaged. HELIOTROPE can steam (?5) knots. VIDETTE has 185 tons oil fuel remaining. Propose to endeavour to take ARIGUANI in tow. Sea swell 56 weather deteriorating.
(VIDETTE 0810A/26.)
Tug is being sent. Why is HELIOTROPE reduced to 5 knots. See para. 11 of my 1730A/21 not to Adty.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1246A/26 to VIDETTE.)
Tug ROLLICKER escorted by LORD HOTHAM is being sailed p.m. today Sunday to rendezvous with COSSACK a.m. tomorrow Monday and take over towing from THAMES.
(ii) On relief THAMES is to proceed at best speed escorted by JONQUIL to ARIGUANI in 37°50 N. 15° 55 W., and tow her to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1306A/26 to JONQUIL.)
My tow parted ARIGUANI has managed to steam 5 knots on 1 engine but cannot steer. Endeavouring to steer her.
(VIDETTE 1330A/26.)
Towing impracticable under present weather conditions. Intend screening ARIGUANI with COMMANDANT DUBOC, HELIOTROPE and CAMPION until further orders received. HELIOTROPE'S M.P. Piston (corrupt group) weather report 5577 2426.
(VIDETTE 1815A/26.)

GLADIOLUS. GLADIOLUS is now considered to be a total loss. No information can be obtained which can throw any light on her last movements. It might be advisable to wait another 48 hours before giving up all hope.
(C. in C.W.A., 1014A/26.)

CORABELLA. CORABELLA reported attacked by U-boat in 004° 09' N., 005° 45' W., at 1434N/26. CORABELLA C. and S. 260° 10 knots proceed to investigate.
(C. in C.S.A.1606N/26 to VIOLET.)
My 1606N/26. Following received.
1645 004° 09' N., 005° 59' W., course 030° speed 10 knots still in action.
(C. in C.S.A. 1710N/26 to VIOLET.)
Following received from Takoradi apparently intercepted from CORABELLA begins.
At 1650 G.M.T. 004° 19' N., 005° 41' W., C. and S., 000° 11 knots S/M has disappeared apparently broken off action ends.
(C. in C.S.A., 2310N/26 to VIOLET.)

/COSSACK.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

COSSACK (torpedoed.) My 1306A/26 vessel sailed. (F.O.C.N.A., 1828A/26.) Have taken off remainder of COSSACK crew. Position is critical am standing by. (JONQUIL 2110A/26.)

Submarines Reported.

2252 G.M.T/25. H.G.75. reported. German U-boat made sighting report on 5660 k/cs bearing 285° Gibraltar 3rd Class at 2252 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 0105A/26. to Escort of H.G.75.) German U-boat by D/F Bearings at 2252 G.M.T., within 60 miles 037° 30' N., 015° 30' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0219A/26 to S. & A., N.A.)

Belle Isle Strait. Your 1858Z/25. It is probable that there will be other U-boats in the Belle Isle Strait area. (D.D.I.C. 0156A/26 to C.O.A.C.Halifax.)

1116 G.M.T/24. Suspected Axis Submarine sighted 38 - 54 N., 14 - 20 W., course 124 true at 1116 G.M.T./24 please inform Spenavo. Ends. (Opnav 0235Z/26 to Adty.)

0248 G.M.T. H.G.75. reported. German U-boat on 56 60 K/c's at 0248 G.M.T., made sight report Gibraltar bearing 284° class 2. (F.O.C.N.A., 0409A/26 to Escort of H.G.75.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1440A/26.)

1658Z. By D/F on 5882 kc/s at 1658Z/26 068° 39' 038° 45'. Reliable fix Admiralty pass to NORFOLK. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2057/26.)

2110Z. H.G.75. reported. By D/F on 4,796 kc/s at 2110Z/26 indication that enemy U-boat was still reporting Convoy H.G.75. (D.D.I.C., 2258A/26. Escorts of H.G.,F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A., H.Q.C.C.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.10.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

Belle Isle Straits.

C.O.A.C. Halifax 1858Z/25. Following received from C.C.N/F Force begins. From amplification received it appears that submarine was sighted on surface and observed to dive one minute after sighted. (?Commander) Task Four informed. Two U.S. Fortress aircraft departed GANDER 2016Z for 051 10' N., 053° 40' W., for A/S search fully armed. 2351Z/25. Ends.
(H.S.H.Q., Ottawa 0322Z/26.)

LAMERTON (FERRARIS.)

Your 1240A/25 and your 1737A/25. If prisoners are still on board they must be kept closely confined between decks during your stay at Ponta Delgada. On no account must they be allowed to touch the shore.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0916A/26 to LAMERTON.)
Your 0916A/26. Survivors were transferred to VIDETTE.
(LAMERTON 1055A/26, to F.O.C.N.A.)

By A/C.

U-boat sighted on surface and attacked by B 233 in position 44° 24' N., 7° 44' W., at 1440 hours course 020 - speed 8 knots. - estimate nil hits.
(19 Group 1530/26.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

S.C. Convoys.

C. in C. W.A. proposes a plan for sailing S.C. convoys on the Great Circle in winter, omitting the call of escorts at Iceland.

British Air Operations.

72 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Hamburg and 8 Cherbourg docks last night.

Coastal Command Aircraft last night attacked a 3,000 ton ship and left it burning in 58° 26' N., -5° 51' E (off Egersund) Docks and shipping at Egersund were also attacked but results were not seen.

Enemy Air Operations.

F.N.37.

Convoy F.N.37 was attacked two or three times today off the coast of Norfolk. S.S. FRIESLAND was sunk in 53° 4' N., 1° 35' E. LORD PLENDER (A/S trawler) had a man killed and her D.G. put out of action by cannon fire. S.S. ANTIOPE was damaged and sank later.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Bristol Channel. — M.M.S. 9 was extensively damaged by a mine near Flatholm light this afternoon.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer". — CARNARVON CASTLE is to return to Simonstown forthwith to form part of Force F., with DEVONSHIRE, COLOMBO and CARTHAGE for this operation (Operation "Ration" see 26/10) Such A/S Whalers and trawlers as the Simonstown seaward Defence Force can provide will also co-operate.

Mediterranean.

An Italian heavy ship is reported to have left Naples. SOKOL has been ordered to patrol off the port.

Libya and Western Desert. — Aircraft bombed, Benghazi harbour last night and again this morning.

Two M.T.Bs. entered Bardia harbour last night and carried out a successful minelaying operation.

S.S. GEORGIC. — S.S. GEORGIC (27,759 tons) which was bombed at Suez on 14/7/41 and was considered a total loss, has been refloated and anchored.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

On completion of repairs WARSPITE will return to the Mediterranean.

U-Boat Campaign.

H.G.75

Convoy H.G.75 was shadowed again today. DUNCAN attacked U-boats unsuccessfully at 0358 and 0713 in 39° 43' N., 19° 16' W., and 39° 37' N., 19° 48' W., respectively.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

8th D.F.

Future employment of F. class destroyers of the 8th Flotilla is at present under consideration
2. In the meanwhile, and while FAULKNOR is still refitting, FURY, FORESTER and FORESIGHT now at Clyde should be temporarily administered by Capt. D. Greenock.
3. On completion of refit FOXHOUND and FORTUNE should proceed as ordered by C. in C. W.A.
(D.O.D. H., 1928A/27).

Your 1354. Spanish trawlers SALMON, SANTE ROSE, TIBUROE and FERNANDO may only be attacked within declared portion of sink-at-sight zone.
(D.O.D. H., 1950A/27 to C. in C. Plymouth).

BLENHEIM to relieve HECLA.

When ready for service BLENHEIM is to relieve HECLA as destroyer depot ship at Iceland.
2. BLENHEIM is due to complete at North Shields at the end of November.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for (a) BLENHEIM to relieve HECLA as early as possible. (b) HECLA to return to the U.K. on relief. (V.C.N.S., 2036A/27)

CHITRAL, WORCESTERSHIRE.

Before granting leave to CHITRAL and WORCESTERSHIRE F.O.I.C.Greenock is requested to confirm that no dockyard work is required in these ships, observing that they will be required to proceed on Foreign Service in due course.
(D.O.D. H., 2048A/27).

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian Naval Staff Personnel.

Have just had interview with Alafuson who is in charge here. Vice Admiral Galla is (?taking charge) as C.N.S. in Moscow. Some of Naval Defence also appear (to be) at Ulianovsk North of here but this may be temporary. Kuznetsov has headquarters in Moscow but is flying to Archangel today to examine whole (?convoy) situation there and at Murmansk.
(Ad. Miles, 1144D/27 to Admty).

/Russian.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia. - Contd.

Russian Party for U.K. — Your 1936D/22. Para. 1. Request rank of Kouznetsov. Paras. 1 and 2. What is the reason for this visit? (D.N.I., 1545A/27 to Adm. Miles.)

Movements.

HARRIER, BRITOMART. — Proceed in company passing Switha 1200 today. HARRIER to Hartlepool for refit. BRITOMART to Grimsby for refit. 2. Unless S.A. gear is operated speed between 17 and 21A Buoys is not to exceed 10 knots except in emergency. (R.A.D., 0945A/27).

NORMAN. — Reference 2200C/26 S.B.N.O. Archangel. Delayed 16 hours. Request Group 2 light 2100 to 0200 Group 1 (one) Light from 0400. No other authority informed. (NORMAN, 1145C/27 to S.B.N.O. Archangel, LEDA)

SUNFISH. — Ref. 2119A/26. H.M.Tugs. CHAMPION to Harwich or Southend as more convenient and STALWART onward can be used for this. (C.C.R.T., 1155A/27).

SUPERMAN for Gibraltar. — Cancel my 1654A/25. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1219A/27) Your 1654A/25. SUPERMAN should not be sailed until further orders. (C.C.R.T., 1357A/27)

EAGLE. — Reference 1128/22. Intend to sail passing boom at 1800/30. (EAGLE, 1225Z/27 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — A.M. 1248A/14. ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to be ready to sail from the Clyde on 10/11 (V.C.N.S., 1343A/27)

/"Gause".....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

"Gause". Code word "Gause" leaves Clyde this week at 1700A/28 arrives Dublin 0700A Wednesday. Leaves Dublin 1700A Wednesday arrived Waterford 1000A Thursday. Leaves Waterford 1700A Thursday arrives Cork 2359A Thursday leaves Cork 1700A Friday expected time of arrival Clyde Boom 2200/1/11 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1416A/27)

SEALION for North Russia. Intend to sail SEALION escorted by WHITE BEAR at 1800/28 passing West of Orkneys to 061° N., 003° 30' W.
WHITE BEAR returning to Holy Loch from this position and SEALION proceeding independently through
(A) 067° 30' N., 000° 00'.
(B) 072° 30' N., 010° E.,
(C) 073° 40' N., 024° E., arriving position (C) at 0001/4 and thence as ordered by S.B.N.O. Murmansk.
(iii) Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side of this route from 061° N., 003° 30' W., from 0800A/29 until further notice. Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.
(A.C.O.S., 1501/27)

RORQUAL. Your 1108A/27. From position (E) onward route as follows to R/V near Wolf Rock.
2. RORQUAL to proceed submerged by day between positions (G) and (H).
3. H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange bombing restrictions 25 miles either side of lines joining positions as follows.
(F.O.S., 1637A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

BERKELEY. C. in C. Portsmouth's 1753A/26 and 1647/27. Intend to sail BERKELEY at 0900/28. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange air protection. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1943A/27 and 2139A/27).

FORESTER, FORESIGHT, FURY. A.M.1314A/26. Leave may be extended to 10/11 at your discretion, when ships should be ready to sail. (A.C.N.S. H., 2040A/27 to Capt. D. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Table".	Postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0816A/27).
HEDGEHOG Trials.	If HEDGEHOG trials are not completed by P.M./5/11 a submarine of 7th Flotilla is to be detailed in place of JUNON. OBERON or OTWAY are the most suitable though not essential. JUNON is to be sailed to join 9th Flotilla when ready. (F.O.S., 1033A/27).
Operation "Pantaloon".	Request information as to numbers of officers and men to be accommodated in ARGUS for operation "Pantaloon". (ARGUS, 1247A/27 to Admty).
Anti E-boat Patrol off Cape De La Hague.	F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1224/26. M.Ls. and Chasseurs from Portland and Portsmouth will carry out anti-E-boat covering patrol from 2200/28 to dawn/29 between 49° 57' N., 2° 40' W., and 50° 15' N., 0° 45' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1543A/27).
Exercises at Dover.	A.L. M015212/41 of 25th September. Intend that personnel shall return to their units until next dark period beginning 10/11. Sufficient preliminary training has been carried out locally and bad weather in addition to moon light is likely to rule out possibility of operations before the date quoted. (V.A. Dover, 1906A/27)

British Air Activty.

Bombing Operations.	On Night 25/26 owing to unfavourable weather there were no operations. On night 26/27, 72 A/C attacked Hamburg and 8 A/C bombed the docks at Cherbourg, starting fires in both places. (H.Q.B.C., 1100/27)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Portland bombed.

One bomb was dropped by an unspecified A/C third mile east of Portland Bill P.W.S.3,near Royal Marine Battery, at 2141/26.
(A) (B) (C) and (D) nil.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0920/27.)

Convoy F.N.37.
FRIESLAND
(Dutch,2662 Tons.) sunk.
ANTIOPE
(British, 4545 Tons sunk.
LORD PLENDER (A/S Trawler) damaged.

Help"Radio"53° 8' N., 1° 39' E.
(LIDDESDALE 1300/27.)
HELP"Radio"53° 5' N., 1° 32' E.
(LIDDESDALE 1402/27.)
Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Radio"
(WOLSEY 1407/27.)
My 1405. 3 Aircraft.
(LIDDESDALE 1410/27.)
FRIESLAND sunk in 053° 04' N., 001° 35' E. Wreck is not visible but considered a danger to navigation. I have on board 6 survivors including Master and one badly injured man unlikely to live, also LORD PLENDER wounded coxswain. LORD PLENDER has on board 7 survivors Proposed port disembarkation Yarmouth. One of LORD PLENDER's crew killed and degaussing out of action due to cannon fire. Request instructions
(SHELDRAKE 1549A/27.)
My 1549. Am proceeding to Yarmouth by Would Channel with LORD PLENDER in company. Request he may be swept in.
(SHELDRAKE 1615A/27.)
Enemy Aircraft bombing. Position 53° 13' N., 1° 3' E.
(WOLSEY 1749/27.) (LIDDESDALE 1759/27.)
Proceed to Yarmouth with LORD PLENDER notwithstanding that degaussing is out of action.
(C. in C. Nore 1751A/27 to SHELDRAKE.)
S.S. ANTIOPE damaged by bombs. Tugs required in 53° 12' N., 1° 8' E. WOLSEY endeavouring to tow to Humber. WOLSEY has 2 boys injured from ANTIOPE and 1 from S.S.ALEXANDRA.
(WOLSEY 1848A/27.)
My 1848. Ship is on Fire aft. Have ordered crew to abandon and am standing by.
(WOLSEY 1924A/27.)
Your 1848 and 1924. Tugs from Humber are proceeding to assist ANTIOPE.
(C. in C. Nore 2037A/27 to WOLSEY.)
Have on board all Officers and crew of ANTIOPE except 1 Gunner, believed killed. Intend to stand by until tugs arrive. Request fighter protection at daylight.
(WOLSEY 2048A/27.)
My 2048A/27. ANTIOPE has sunk. Intend to proceed to Tyne with survivors 4 seriously injured.
(WOLSEY 2210A/27.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

One S.A. mine detonated at 0923/24. Details. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness 0845/27.)

WELSHMAN.

Arrival. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A., 1547/27.)

Bristol Channel. M.M.S.9. damaged.

At 1415/27 one Red Mine detonated by Sweepers 206° Flatholm Light 1 mile.
Probably laid night 26/27 October. Extensive damage to M.M.S.9.
(Capt. M/S. Bristol Channel 1815A/27.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Shipping.

1. Learn from intercept dated 15/10 that Norwegian shipping is now being requisitioned by Germans in Norway for voyages to Petsamo. Vessels will be returned to owners at Tromso on completion of charter. Graded A.2.
2. About 22/10 Germans tried unsuccessfully to acquire 2 small steamers in Sweden for traffic in North Norway. Graded B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm 1804/27.)

Navigational.

A/S Nets in White Sea Approaches.

Admiralty Pass to N.C.S.O's.
My 1735/14 and my 1935/25. Masters of M/V's should not be given positions of A/S nets, but should be warned of the importance of a strict adherence to approach routes supplied by N.C.S.O's.
(A.C.N.S.T., 2008A/27.)

Technical.

Escort Vessels at Gibraltar.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 2332A/24. It is essential that W.A., escort vessels especially corvettes be boiler cleaned at Gibraltar. Otherwise these ships will be averaging about 800 hours steaming between boiler cleanings. Such a routine is considered dangerous and will reduce efficiency of escort forces.
(C. in C.W.A., 1931A/27 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ENGLISH TRADER. (Ashore 26/10.)

Return to Sheerness. Report condition of wreck.
(C. in C. Nore 0925A/27 to VESPER.)
ENGLISH TRADER aground on centre of Hammond Knoll. Mast funnel and superstructure above water. Back broken amidships. 44 men rescued by Cromer lifeboat, 5 men lost.
(C. in C. Nore 1015A/27.)

M.L.1028.

Your 1937A/25. M.L.1028 in collision and sustained damage which will take 1 week to 10 days to repair. Request M.L.1066 may be shipped in her place.
(Capt. M/L. Clyde 1100/27.)
Your 1100/27. Approved.
(D.D.O.D.C.1848A/27 to Capt. M/L. Clyde.)

CATS EYE sunk. on 26/10.

Seine net drifter CATS EYE sunk in 58° 05' N., and 3° 09' W., at 0420/26. Struck by WM.STROUD whilst at anchor. Skipper and 7 hands landed at Aberdeen by colliding vessel at 1730/26. No one missing and survivors unharmed.
(N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 1220/27.)

ROBINA INGLIS.

(Motor Boat) Ashore entrance Amble Harbour.
(F.O.I.C., Tyne 1310/27.)

SILJA. (M/S Whaler grounded.)

Arrived SILJA. Vessel grounded on Corran Ledge whilst entering Oban, anticipate refloating on flood tide.
(N.O.I.C., Oban 1521A/27.)

FURY, FORESTER, FORESIGHT.

A.T. 1314A/26. FURY, FORESTER, and FORESIGHT will be fit for service on completion of boiler cleaning and essential defects which will be completed concurrently by 7/11. Ships however, will require refit in the near future in the above order.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1534A/27.)

TJALDUR.

Request you will sail ZWARTE ZEE to assist S.S.TJALDUR in 55° 11' N., 05° 20' W., at 1340 making 3 knots to Clyde, and tow her to Greenock.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1545A/27 to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown.)
Sailed ZWARTE ZEE.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1715A/27.)

/LORD KEITH...

MOST SECRET.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

LORD KEITH. (A/P Drifter) damaged.

Following received from Brightlingsea. LORD KEITH in collision with QUEEN EAGLE off B6 Buoy. LORD KEITH hull damaged, but remaining on patrol until daylight.
(F.O.I.C., Harwich 2240A/27.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.G.75. LAMERTON.

P.C. and S., 39° 11' N., 23° 25' W., 046°, 8 knots. Unlikely to rejoin Convoy today unless weather moderates.
(LAMERTON 0818A/27.)

B.B.94.

F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 2218A/26. B.B.94 can be accepted at Milford Haven pending re-opening of Bristol Channel ports.
(F.O.I.C., Milford Haven 1150A/27.)

Stationing of Escorts.

Your 1700A/15/9 para. 2, (C). Suggest that if night conditions are unfavourable for "E" boat attack but favourable for air attack on convoy. S.O. of escort should have discretion to place destroyers inside the seaward line of M.L.S. if he considers it desirable, in order to provide better A.A. defence.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1233A/27 to C. in C. Nore.)
Your 1233A/27. Concur.
(C. in C. Nore 2205A/27 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
My 1700A/15/9 para. 2 (c) add new para. 2 (d). On nights when conditions are unfavourable for E-boat attack but favourable for air attack on the convoy the Senior Officer of the escort has discretion to station destroyers inside the seaward line of M.L's if he considers it desirable in order to provide better A/A defence.
(C. in C. Nore 2208A/27.)

O.G.76. AUDACITY.

Owing to time required to remove wings of spare aircraft AUDACITY will be unable to join Convoy O.G.76 until daylight 29/10. Intend leaving Greenock at 0800/28, landing on four aircraft at 1130 and subsequently proceeding to Campbeltown leaving there at 1700/28.
(AUDACITY 1240A/27.)

COPELAND.

Cancel my 1135/27. Owing to number of cot cases among survivors embarked in COPELAND intend sailing her and 2 motor ships escorted by ST. CATHAM and AYRSHIRE direct to U.K.to-morrow.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 1755Z/27.)

/O.G.76.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

O.G.76.	O.G.76 is postponed until further orders.
O.G.M.76.	O.G.M.76 is to be escorted to Clyde by Irish Sea escorts. (O. in C.W.A., 1235A/27.)
Routeing of S.C. and O.N.S. Convoys.	Proposed amended routine for Escorts. Details. (C. in C.W.A., 1616A/27.) See Lion Copy.
Routeing of Convoys.	Amendment No. 39 to A.M.0001/1st May. (D.T.D., 1658A/27.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RORQUAL. Intend to sail RORQUAL for Holy Loch P.M./28. S/M will pass through position E 043° 00' 010° 00' about 1200A/31 shifting W/T watch at that time. F.O.(S) is requested to signal onward instructions and arrange bombing restrictions.
RORQUAL is painted blue and has only 8 torpedoes on board. (F.O.C.N.A., 1108A/27 to Admty).

Programme for MIRROR. Your 1226A/13. Escort situation permitting MIRROR will carry out programme on completion of laying of deep D.G. range cable to be in about weeks time.
(ii) Request position of repairs (a) and (b) may be communicated to facilitate routeing. (F.O.C.N.A., 1242A/27 to Admty).

Ships at Ponta Delgada. Fleet tug BRIGAND LEGION left Ponta Delgada 1230 and 1430 G.M.T. respectively 27th. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1249/27.

Mails for Canary Is. My 1837/13. There is no safe hand communication from here with Canary Islands and I understand bags often wait six months in U.K. Submit confidential mail including Foreign Office bags could be sent in escorting vessels scheduled to fuel at Canary Islands. (N.A. Madrid, 1307/27 to Admty).

LORD HOTHAM, CARNATION, STELLA CARINA. Ships addressed and ROLLICKER are to return to Gibraltar forthwith. Inform ROLLICKER. (F.O.C.N.A., 1315A/27 to LORD HOTHAM, CARNATION, STELLA CARINA).

Convoy H.G.75. 2 F.W. shadowing my P. C. and S., 040° 08' 020° 34' 305° 6½ DUNCAN rejoined weather report 2667 7069 0606. (ROCHESTER, 1515Z/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Air Escorts and searches. 202 Squadron. One Catalina located and report 1 COSSACK, 2. Tanker VELMA - BRITISH FREEDOM, 3 DINGLEDALE, Dawn to 2100 hours. Area covered Gibraltar to 33.00 N., 12.00 W. 1 Catalina escort to H.G.75. 1 Fulmar search for Fishing Vessel DOGFISH. 1 Swordfish search for EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. (200 Group, 1735/27 to Air Min.)

LEGION. Your 1714A/26. Expected to pass through position D at 1200Z/28 steering 06° R 18 knots. Position 38.25 N., 26.07 W., Weather report follows:- Height of low cloud 6. Amount of low cloud 3 Visibility 8 Weather 0 Pressure 29 Direction of wind 2 Force of wind 5. (LEGION, 1801Z/27 to S.O. Force G).

/W.A.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary

27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

W.A. Escort Vessels.

Your 2332A/24. Unless Western Approaches escort vessels can be boiler cleaned it is essential that these should not be employed at Gibraltar. Ref. to para 3 it must be borne in mind that these ships have completed on the average 15 days or more at sea in N.A. weather when they arrive in Gibraltar and with the prospect of the return journey of same length. Any laxness in boiler cleaning is bound to lead to trouble which cannot be accepted in present state of escort strength.
(C. in C. W.A. 1930A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S.S. DINGLEDALE Escorts reporting.

Situation reports on 23rd 25th and 26th October stated AZALEA and SPIREA were escorting S.S. DINGLEDALE who made position signals at 1929/24 and 0958/26. Please confirm that orders to escorts direct them to report if ship to be escorted is not met within a few hours of appointed time. Admiralty also requires this information.
(D.T.D. 2221A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer".

Adty's. 2345/26. Intend to carry out operation "Bellringer" as follows :-
(i)DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to R/V with W.S.12 in 033° 25' S. 017° 10' E. at 1200N/30 and relieve DEVONSHIRE.
(ii) On relief DEVONSHIRE is to proceed to Simonstown with despatch for fuel.
(iii) CARNARVON CASTLE is to return to Simonstown forthwith.
(iv) If C. in C. Med, and C. in C. E.I. concur EURYALUS, HEYTHROP, FARNDALE will form Force F. with DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE.
(v) Force F. sails Simonstown as ordered by N.O.I.C. Simonstown to carry out operation.
(vi) N.O.I.C. Simonstown to arrange maximum air and surface reconnaissance with Union Gov.
(C. in C. S.A. 0147N/27 to Admty., C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., N.O.I.C. Simonstown, CARNARVON CASTI DEVONSHIRE, DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, EURYALUS, HEYTHROP, FARNDALE.

/Your ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer" Contd.

Your 0147N/27. Regret EURYALUS, HEYTHROP, and FARNDALE cannot be delayed for "Bellringer". (A.C.N.S. (F), 1026A/27 to C. in C. S.A.)
Request you will conduct this operation with DEVONSHIRE, CARNARVON CASTLE and such A/S Whalers and Trawlers as S.D.F. can provide. Report outline of plan in due course. My 0147/27 and Admiralty's 1026A/27 refer. (C. in C. S.A., 1203N/27 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

Visit to Falkland Is.

Owing to shortage of ships I have been unable to visit Falkland Islands since March.
If I can count on having not less than 2 A.M.Cs. with S.A.D. I consider early visit desirable while you have 2 - 8 inch cruisers in South Atlantic, and while German main units are located in home waters. Subject to your approval propose to visit Montevideo in BIRMINGHAM during second week in November then proceed to Port Stanley for about 4 days. (R.A.S.A.D., 1458Z/27 to C. in C. S.A.)

C. in C. E.I., 1506Z/27 include COLOMBO and CARTHAGE in operation "Bellringer". (C. in C. S.A., 1959N/27 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

Force F.

Ships addressed no longer Form Force F. (C. in C. S.A., 1122N/27 to DUNEDIN, VIMY, BRILLIANT).

AQUITANIA.

Your 2245/19 and my 1746/20. Harbour Authorities now consider ship could lie safely alongside during period near Neap tide. Berthing would have to be carried out at half tide on rising tide. On last occasion ship visited Capetown, however, Captain refused to attempt berthing on grounds that margin of safety was too narrow. This conflicts with owners opinion but is a major factor.
(ii) Limit of draught for a ship at Capetown is 35 repeat 35 feet at L.W. O.S. and loaded draught of AQUITANIA is 36 feet 2 inches.
(iii) Request very early information if it is decided to accept risk of berthing in order that arrangements for assembling (?troops) may be put in hand.
(iv) D.S.T. 2327/26 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1257Z/27 to Admty).

/Your.....

War Diary.

27.10.41.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

AQUITANIA -Contd.

Your 1257Z/27. Concur that berthing of AQUITANIA alongside is undesirable.
2. Cunard White Star did not have this is mind but envisaged ship being anchored in outer harbour where bunkering, embarkation of troops, etc., would take place.
3. Can this be accepted.
(D.O.D.(F) 2219A/27 to N.O.I.C.Simonstown).

STRATHAIRD.

In order to relieve congestion at Durban accentuated by the inclusion of NIEUW AMSTERDAM in W.S. 12 it is necessary to divert one additional ship to Capteown. Intend to divert STRATHAIRD for this purpose so that ratings for JUMNA can be transferred direct to their ship. D.of S.T's 1809/21 para 7 refers.
(P.S.T.O.Simonstown 1509B/24 to C.in C.E.I.).

S.S. GENERAL FOCH.

Reference H.M.C.G's. Lourenco Marques No.112 Arfar of 21/10, please make necessary arrangements for interception of S.S. GENERAL FOCH if practicable.
(Hd.of M. 1544A/27 to F.O.I.C.Simonstown).

S/M attack on CORABELLA.

Your 2310/26 to VIOLET. Possibility exists that U-boat was a minelayer repeating operation which caused sinking of ST. ANSELM at Accra. In view of importance of ACADIA and escort, it may be desirable to sweep them in, using "LL" trawlers SKUDD VI and ST. MELANTE.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1701A/27 to C.in C.S.A.).

WRESTLER.

Adty. 1912A/24 para 2 not to WRESTLER. Intend to sail WRESTLER for refit in U.K. with S.L.91 being detached from convoy to fuel at Bathurst 31/10 then proceeding independently to Ponta Delgada to arrive 7/11. Request C.in C. W.A. will issue onward route from Ponta Delgada but in view of WRESTLER's lack of endurance suggest she proceed Plymouth.
(C.in C.S.A. 1701N/25 to Adty.).

/Daily.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic -Contd.

Daily S/M Disposition signal.

Request daily submarine disposition signal may be divided into two parts. Part one submarines North of 30° N part two submarines South of 30° N. Part two only to be addressed to South Atlantic Squadron. This will save much decoding of unwanted information in small ships.
(C.in C. S.A. 1835N/27 to Adty).

DERBYSHIRE
W.S.12
DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.

In view of your 1940Z/25. Cancel instructions in para. one of my 0147/27 neither to DERBYSHIRE. DERBYSHIRE is to R/V with W.S.12. in 033° 25'S 017°. (?10) E at 1200 N/30 and relieve DEVONSHIRE as escort to Durban. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE after escorting STRATHEDEN to Durban is to return to Capetown and escort Capetown portion of W.S. 12 (?on).
(C.in C.S.A. 1921N/27 to N.O.I.C.Simonstown DERBYSHIRE, DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.

S.S.
CLAN FERGUSON.

CLAN FERGUSON with Albacore A/S escort attacked by one torpedo aircraft 30 miles West of Gozo at about 1624A/24 and then machine gunned. Torpedo easily avoided. CLAN FERGUSON recalled and entered harbour at dawn 25th.
(N.O.I.C.Malta 1010A/27).

Mediterranean.

TALISMAN.

Return by reverse of your outward route.
(Capt S.1 1121B/27 to TALISMAN).

Air Operations.

Night Oct 25/26. 3 Wellingtons bombed harbour works at Benghazi from 11,000 feet starting small fires on bases of Juliana and Central Moles.
Day 26/10. 8 Marylands attacked buildings on Juliana Point Benghazi from 17,800 feet in afternoon. Majority of bombs fell on objective, further bombs started fire in harbour. 2,000 propaganda leaflets dropped on each of Benghazi and Sollum.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1142/27).

/Russian.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

Russian ships from Black Sea.

My 0002D/22. C.N.3. informs me negotiations with Turkish Government interrupted by evacuation now proceeding again. Turks have not turned down (?proposal) but Russians do not require Admiral Kelly's assistance yet but may want it later on.
(2) Decision about sending 12 trawlers to U.K. for fitting as minesweepers still not taken. This decision (corrupt group) partly depends on Kuzuetsov's visit north. Regret all copies of signals on this subject except your 1722A/30th Sept. were burnt before leaving Moscow but I can remember an outline. Your 1420A/22nd Oct. (?In addition to) these three officers Russians require one naval officer in each convoy containing a Soviet ship of whom Kulizovski and Chekin are 2.
(Moscow 1259D/27 to Adty.).

Destroyers strength.

Your 1600/24th. Real position is in effect that until the 4 HUNTS now building referred to at end of para.5, are available, no forces can be sent to meet the fresh commitments in Red Sea caused by the need to protect Red Sea shipping. It will be appreciated that 4 HUNTS now coming into service are merely normal reinforcements promised to bring Medit. Fleet destroyer force up to strength and cannot therefore be regarded as earmarked for Red Sea. I earnestly hope therefore that every effort will be made to remedy this state of affairs since it means that in either Red Sea or Mediterranean we shall be unable properly to meet our engagements while this situation persists.
(C.in C.Med. 1515B/27 to Adty.).

Enemy Intelligence.

Aircraft report 3 ships in 032° 43' and 014° 53' approx. course 100° speed 7 knots.
(Capt.(S)1 1621B/27 to THRASHER.).

A/C R/C 27th. 3 Destroyers 5 S/Ms in Augusta.
(Capt (S)110 1913A/27 to UNBEATEN).

/ Air.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air Operations.	Day 27/10. 6 40 lb. bombs dropped Tripoli town 2 enemy fighters evaded. 700 ton schooner off Cotrone machine gunned. Night 27/28 October no operations bad weather. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1820/27.)
GEORGIC.	GEORGIC afloat safely anchored proceeding to drain out (?as suggested) making cement box. (Fleet Salvage Offr. Suez 1835B/27.)
Italian Heavy ship.	Italian heavy ship reported to have left Naples. (Capt. S.10 1937A/27 to 10 S/M F. TETRARCH.)
Orders to SOKOL.	Proceed with despatch to establish patrol in the vicinity of 040° 43' 013° 47' until further orders. Heavy enemy units on return to Naples from South westward are believed to approach Imperatore light from W.N.W. then passing close to south of Ischia Island. (Capt. S.10 2007A/27 to SOKOL.)
Employment of Greek Naval Units.	Admiral Sakellariou wishes to obtain some new ships for his personnel to man. Personnel available is given in my 2205/27 which follows. For the present he intends the 3 biggest destroyers as soon as their refits and fittings of A/S is completed should be available for unrestricted service anywhere they may be needed in the Medit. remainder of destroyers and T.Bs to be used for escort duty. 3 S/Ms to be available for normal patrols and other 2 to be used as A/S targets and for training S/M crews. Consider this to be a sound arrangement. Morale has improved and general news is increasing. (C. in C. Med. 2201B/27 to Adty.) Personnel details. (C. in C. Med. 2205/27.)

/TRIUMPH ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

TRIUMPH. ?Leave your area ?P.M./30th and proceed to patrol during daylight 31st within 25 miles of Cape Sapthi ? Elaphonisos Channel thence proceed through position (a) 036° 08' 022° 40'. (b) 034° 32' 023° 40'. (c) 032° 46' 028° 40' and then direct to Alexandria.
(?Adjust to) (?required) speed to pass through position (b) and (c) at approx. 1500B/1 and 1200B/3 respectively and arriving Sanctuary at 0530B/4.
When (?leaving) your area you are to remain West of 023° 50' until south of Kithera.
Intelligence of Vatika Bay area will be signalled later. (Capt. (S) 1, 2215B/27 to TRIUMPH).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Massawa. Latest position. (N.O.I.C. Massawa 0614Z/27.)
See Lion Copy.

CLAN FORBES. Re 1146Z/16 from C. in C. E.I., Master CLAN FORBES requests information concerning number of days for which to provision the vessel leaving Calcutta.
(S.T.O. Calcutta 1106Z/27 to Adty.)

Operation "Ration". Re Adty's 2345/26 COLOMBO and CARTHAGE are at your disposal for operation "Ration". Former ready for sea today 27th latter due Durban today 27th.
(C. in C.E.I., 1506Z/27 to C. in C.S.A.)

YARRA. YARRA has been sailed from Persian Gulf for service in Red Sea.
(C. in C.E.I., 1616Z/27 to A.C.N.B.)

CENTURION. (1) CENTURION will have docked and will be ready on 1/11. At what notice should she remain. (11) Adty's 0027/29 refers.
(C. in C.E.I., 1620Z/27 to C. in C. Med.)

China.

Sharp Peak Island. My 1203/26. In view of satisfactory report received destroyer has been recalled to Hong Kong.
(C. in C. China 0431Z/27 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

Raider Search. U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and U.S. Destroyer SOMERS are searching for suspected enemy raider reported by U.S. Ship PATOKA in 006° 44' S., 034° 26' W., on 22/10.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1029Q/26 to ASTURIAS.)

/Corvette.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

Corvette refits. Adty., 1101A/18 and N.S.H.Q., 1559Z/21. (A) In view of loss of GLADIOLUS intend to substitute EYEBRIGHT. EYEBRIGHT could arrive Charleston about 14/11. (B) Intend that MAYFLOWER and BITTERSWEET follow DIANTHUS and EYEBRIGHT respectively. (C.C.N.F. 1445Z/27.)

INDOMITABLE. Following is revised programme for INDOMITABLE.

Arrives.	Place.	Leaves.
26/10.	Bermuda.	1/11.
3/11.	Jamaica.	17/11.
19/11.	Trinidad.	22/11.
29/11.	Gibraltar.	-

(C. in C.A.W.I., 1602Q/27.)

S.S.BRITISH JUSTICE. Your 1823A/30/9 not to S.O.(I) Kingston. BRITISH JUSTICE due 25/10. Not yet arrived. (N.C.S.O., Port of Spain 1643Q/27 to Adty.)

Situation reports by Opnav. Your 1149/13. 231 AJ. Opnav is now making a daily 1900 G.M.T., situation on report and has instructed escorts under U.S. Control to carry out similar procedure to that carried out by British escorts. (B.A.D., 1825R/27 to Adty.)

STEEL ENGINEER. Your 2311/26. STEEL ENGINEER arrived Los Angeles 10/10. (D.N.I., Ottawa 1904Z/27 to S.O.(I)Kingston.)

Communication arrangements for U.S. Transports. Cancel my 1551/4 and 1809/7. (B.A.D. Washington 1909R/27 to C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

T.C.15. D.S.T. 2326 A (26) Congress anticipate sailing date of T.C.15 13/11 will be maintained. D.S.T. is issuing the necessary instructions to Master and (?C.O.) troops to have ships as clean as possible before transhipment (? so that) embarkation of Canadian troops can be expedited. Embarkation dates 9th 10th unchanged and 12 November. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 2053Z/27.)

/ILLUSTRIOUS....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS. FORMIDABLE. ARCHER.

Adty., 2217/3, 1533A/7 and 2319A/22.
As far as is known only 12 T.S.R. aircraft (all at Jamaica) are available for protection on passage of ILLUSTRIOUS FORMIDABLE AND ARCHER (B.A.V.G. One).
(ii) Present policy appears to be for ILLUSTRIOUS and ARCHER to proceed independently to Jamaica each to embark 6 T.S.R. aircraft. This leaves no T.S.R's available for FORMIDABLE.
(iii) Suggest for consideration. ILLUSTRIOUS on completion proceed Jamaica and embark all available T.S.R. aircraft and return to Norfolk. These passages would be made at high speed and would constitute an extended trial of engines. ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE then proceed in company to U.K., with 8 T.S.R's between them. The remaining T.S.R's to be landed at Norfolk and held for B.A.V.G. One.
(iv) Permission to disembark these aircraft would be sought from U.S. authorities.
(v) Estimated earliest dates of sailing are: ILLUSTRIOUS 4/12 FORMIDABLE 10/12 ARCHER 21/12, (approx.)
(vi) Any working up necessary for ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE would be carried out from Norfolk and there will be no necessity for them to call at Bermuda.
(B.A.D. Washington 2101R/27 to Adty.)

WARSPITE.

On completion of repairs WARSPITE will return to the Mediterranean.
2. Full outfit of 4 C.R.H. 15" Shell embarked in U.S.A. is to be exchanged for 5/10 C.R.H.15" shell at Trincomalee, the 4 C.R.H. Shell thus released forming part of the reserve for the Eastern Fleet.
3. Swordfish float plane is to be retained on board for passage to the Meditn. The unit of two Walrus aircraft will be ready for you at Alexandria, the necessary gear for the change from Swordfish to Walrus is to be embarked before sailing from U.S.A.
4. Subject to their own requirements U.S.Navy are prepared to arrange facilities for working up at Hawaii.
5. WARSPITE is to submit a programme through B.A.R.M., for return to Meditn., including carrying out essential practices at Hawaii.
6. B.A.R.M. is requested to obtain the concurrence of U.S. Navy Office to ship's working up proposals.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2201A/27.)

MOST SECRET

27.10.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.S. HATASU. (Torpedoed 2/10).
Your 1625A/24. 7 survivors as yet unfit for interrogation picked up in 051° 56' N 035° 58' W by U.S. Destroyer CHARLES F.HUGHES 16/10 and landed Reykjavik. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1057/27 to Adty).

ARIGUANI (Torpedoed 26/10).
Position 038° 00' N 016° 05' W Captain (ARIGUANI) considers ship will not last to Gibraltar compartments adjacent to engine room slowly filling, if engine room bulkhead goes ship will sink. CAMPION has 170 survivors on board. VIDETTE has fuel to remain in the area until 0800/28. Weather report 4381 2527 sea swell 67. (VIDETTE 1102A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.). Weather permitting CAMPION is to transfer to VIDETTE any survivors not required for working (ARIGUANI). VIDETTE is to return to Gibraltar as late as fuel situation permits. Tug THAMES and JONQUIL should join ARIGUANI by daylight/29. (F.O.C.N.A. 1554A/27, 1840A/27 to VIDETTE).

S.S. CORABELLA (attacked 26/10).
CORABELLA appears to have been in gun action with U-boat from about 1530 until 1650 G.M.T/26 when U-boat disappeared apparently having broken off the action. CORABELLA reported all well at 2005Z/26. (C.in C. S.A. 1120N/27).

COSSACK (Torpedoed 23/10).
COSSACK has sunk.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302A/27 to Adty).

JONQUIL and tug THAMES are to proceed in accordance with my 1306A/26th.
F.O.C.N.A. 1313A/27. to JONQUIL).

Convoy S.C.48.
S.C.48. Weather deteriorated after leaving Belle Isle Straits, 11 stragglers including Commodore's ship which sustained damage to steering gear.
Convoy attacked by U-boats from 15th to 18th October. Following merchant ships torpedoed.
BOLD VENTURE W.C.TEAGLE. ERVIKEN EVROS
EMPIRE HERON BARFONN SILVER CEDAR ILA and RYM.
(D.T.D. 1723A/27 to Opnav).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.10.1941.
Monday.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1508/26. Clipper Pilot reports German S/M at 1508/26 in 038° 16' N. 014° 45' W steering to intercept unknown Portuguese ship. (N.A.Lisbon 1113/27 to D.N.I.).

0930/20. Following grade B 2. Submarine sighted 0930/20 in 018°18' N 017° 45' W with 2 sails set one of which completely obscured Conning Tower the other right aft. A dummy cargo Derrick also before Conning Tower. (F.O.C.N.A. 1127A/27 to S & A, N.A. Station).

1040Z By aircraft in 51° 28' N. 53° 30' W. at 1040Z/27 course 355°. (C.O.A.C.Halifax 1245Z/27).

1234 G.M.T. At 1234 G.M.T. German U-boat made (?sighting) report on 11068 k/cs 291° Gibraltar Class one. (F.O.C.N.A. 1356A/27. to S & A, N.A.).

Estimated U-boat Dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1414A/27, Opnav 1952Z/27).

1520 G.M.T. Convoy O.N.28. U-boat probably sighted Convoy O.N. 28 at 1520/27 G.M.T. (D.T.D. 1555Z/27 to Opnav).

H.G.75 F.W. appears to be homeing U-boats on to convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 1616A/27 to Escort H.G.75).

1334. At 1334 by D/F U-boat within 60 miles of 040° 20' N 018° 30' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1813A/27 to S & A, N.A.Station).

1809Z H.G.75. D/F on 5660 kc/s. at 1809Z/27, indicates that convoy H.G. 75 is still being shadowed. (D.D.I.C. 1930A/27 to Escorts H.G.75 F.O.C.N.A. G. in C.W.A. H.Q.C.C.).

1547 1555 1909 H.G.75. German U-boat within 15 miles of (1) 040° 40' N 021° 00' W at 1547 (2) 040° 40' N 020° 30' W at 1555. At 1909 sighting report 290° Gibraltar 3rd class. (F.O.C.N.A. 2038A/27 to Escorts H.G.75).

/1700C....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.10.1941. Monday.

U-B CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported -contd.

1700C — U-boat by D.F.B. at 1700C in 070° 13' N 041° 55' E. Admiralty pass to all addressees. Immediate. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2053C/27, to NORFOLK, LEDA).

S.C.50 or O.N.28. — Submarine sighted either S.C. 50 or O.N. 28 at 1913 G.M.T./27. (Opnav 2230/27 to Action Cdr. Task Unit 4.1.6. Cdr. Task Unit 4.1.13. East of 035° W.).

2107 — German submarine made sighting report of Convoy at 2107 27th bearing 292° class 3. (F.O.C.N.A. 2231A/27 to H.G.75).

Submarines Attacked.

By DUNCAN. — At 0358 and 0713 U-boats were sighted in (I) 039° 43' N 019° 16' W (2) 039° 37' N 019° 48' W unsuccessfully attacked. Continuing hunt with MALLOW. Rejoining Convoy before sunset. (DUNCAN 0859Z/27 to F.O.C.N.A.).

By U.S. destroyer. — At 1210Z/27 (? destroyer escort) 3.5 made asdic contact apparently S/M 015° 45' N 030° 00' W. Dropped 3 depth charges without known result and lost contact after 2nd detonation (?.) One hour search by plane and destroyer negative. (U.S.C.N.O. 1708/29 to Adty.etc.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Weather. A gale is disorganising the movements of ships. H.X. 155 in the Western Approaches is scattered. Other convoys are much drawn out (O.N. 30 extends over 30 miles) or hove to and some ships are sheltering.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today on account of the weather.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs in Westmanshavn this morning. No damage or casualties occurred. The aircraft subsequently reconnoitred Skaale Fiord where the 4th M/S F is lying preparatory to sweeping a passage through the Iceland-Faeroes minefield.

Mining.

Bristol Channel. All Bristol Channel ports except Watchet and River Parrett were opened at 1039 today until 1630. Minelaying by enemy aircraft after dark until 2145/28 was suspected.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

A.H.Q. West Africa. — It is notified today that A.H.Q. West Africa was instituted on 22/10 under Air Commodore E.A.B. Rice, C.B.E. M.C.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert. — 4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night.

Red Sea. — Italian destroyer TIGRE and two other vessels are reported to have been beached and scuttled but undamaged 20 miles south of Jidda.

China.

It has been decided to replace the appointment of C. in C. China by a new appointment styled C. in C. Eastern Fleet. The duties of the C. in C. Eastern Fleet are outlined in Adty. 1719A/28. The C. in C. will fly his flag afloat and his Chief of Staff will deputise for him ashore at Singapore in his absence.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

H.G. 75. ULEA was torpedoed at 0012Z today in position reported as 41° 13' N. 21° 38' W. or 41° 17' N. 21° 40' W. and sank later. This is the fourth -merchant ship to be torpedoed in this convoy, in addtion to COSSACK and ARIGUANI. ROCHESTER reports that the escorting ships are running short of depth charges, illuminants and fuel.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Aultbea. Additional A/P Trawler requested.

The two trawlers here have been unable to maintain patrol and examination service on two occasions due to breakdown owing to stormy weather and no relief being available. This causes a serious situation with no means of controlling convoys entering harbour when ships are leaving and no examination services. One other trawler SAON has been allocated but has not arrived. Both trawlers here are due for refit and are not too reliable. If continuous patrol is to be kept it is essential that another trawler capable of keeping the patrol in rough weather should be allocated in addition forthwith. At present there is only one trawler available. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1159A/28 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Polish Airmen from Russia for U.K.

Your 0301A/24. I have just seen Poles. 12 Naval Officers and 95 men will return with next batch of Polish airmen. Doubtful whether more than another 200 to 300 will be forthcoming. 2. Please see D. of S.T. 2325A/26. Difficult for me to ?help here if this attitude is adopted at home. Should be most grateful if you can assist in making a ship available either from Archangel or Murmansk. The Southern route from the Polish camp appears to be very difficult. (Ad. Miles 1204D/28 to Admty.)

Spitzbergen.

Request approx. date when you intend Spitzbergen to be next visited. (A.C.N.S. H. 1553A/28 to C. in C. H.F.)

C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Appointment and Duties.

A. It has been decided to replace the appointment of C. in C. China by a new appointment styled C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
B. While Japan remains neutral the duties of C. in C. Eastern Fleet will be:-
(1) The command and the administration of the Eastern Fleet (see para. F. below) and of naval forces and establishments on the China Station at present carried out by C. in C. China.
(2) The preparation of plans and war orders for the whole Eastern Theatre in collaboration with C. in C. Far East, C. in C. E.I., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., and U.S. and Dutch authorities. The Eastern Theatre is defined in para. H. below.

/C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Appointment and Duties - Contd.

C. On the outbreak of War with Japan, or when directed by the Admiralty, C. in C. Eastern Fleet will, in addition to the above duties, assume the strategic control of all British and Dutch Naval Forces with the exception of Local Defence Forces in the Eastern Theatre subject to the following:-

(1) While the distribution and General plan of employment of naval forces throughout the Eastern Theatre is the responsibility of C. in C. Eastern Fleet, C's in C. of each Station will retain operational control of the Naval Forces other than the Eastern Fleet operating on their station.

(2) Dominions and Associated Powers have the right to withdraw or withhold forces from the strategic control of C. in C. Eastern Fleet provided prior information is given to the latter.

D. The degree of strategic control exercised by C. in C. Eastern Fleet over the Naval Forces of the U.S.A. should the latter be a belligerent will be governed by such agreement as may be in force at the time between the U.S. and Great Britain.

E. In order that C. in C. Eastern Fleet may fly his flag afloat he will be provided with a Chief of Staff and a Chief Staff Officer. The former will deputise for C. in C. Eastern Fleet at Singapore in his absence; the latter will remain afloat.

F. It is possible that a part of the Eastern Fleet may be assembled in the Eastern Theatre before the outbreak of war with Japan. The disposition of any such units within the Eastern Theatre will be the responsibility of C. in C. Eastern Fleet who will delegate operational control of them while employed on stations other than the China Station as he considers necessary. Units which are to be considered as forming the Eastern Fleet will be promulgated by the Admiralty in due cource.

G. The above arrangements will come into force when ordered by the Admiralty.

H. The Eastern Theatre comprises:-

(1) While the U.S. are non-belligerent, the existing E.I, China, Australian and N.Z.Naval Stations.

(2) If the U.S. are belligerent the existing E.I. China Australian and N.Z. naval stations bounded on the N. and E. by the following line:-

/the....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.10.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Appointment and Duties - Contd.

the parallel of 30° N. from the coast of China to meridian 140° E., down the latter to the Equator along the Equator to 180th meridian, and down the latter. The Pacific Ocean to the east of this line will be an area of U.S. Strategic responsibility.
J. A.T. 0050/11/5, 2024/13/5 and 0533/19/5 are cancelled. (1st Lord 1719A/28).

RENOWN.

On completion of refit RENOWN will come under the orders of C. in C. H.F. and will proceed to Scapa to work up as ordered by him.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1928A/28).

14th and 15th M/S Flotillas. Re-allocation of M/S trawlers.

M/MS 0677/41 dated 8/10/41. 14th M.S.F. will not be based in Dover Command.
2. Now proposed that 14th M.S.F. be based at Aberdeen and that 12 trawlers (O) be surrendered in lieu.
3. Propose also that 15th M.S.F. be based at Granton and that RYDE and SANDOWN be transferred to 8th M.S.F. to make room.
4. If paras. 2 and 3 are concurred in, request you will sail trawlers in groups to ports indicated by C. in C. Nore as follows.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1930A/28 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian S/M Patrol.

Your 1157A/27/9 and my 13240/28/9. Soviet C. in C. Northern Fleet proposes Soviet submarine to operate Vestifiord sailing 29/10 subject to your approval. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 16290/28 to Adty.)
Your 16290/28. Approved.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2353A/28 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Movements.

MINERVE.

Leave patrol after dark on 30/10 diving by day (route) to R/V at 0800A/2 in 135° Bressay Light 7 miles for escort into Lerwick. (Capt. S.9 1045A/28 to MINERVE).

P.35.

Intend to sail P.35 escorted by LEICESTER CITY for Dundee at 1700A today. E.T.A. 1100A/29.
(A.C.O.S. 1125A/28).

/O.14.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

O.14.	LOCH MONTEITH and O.14 are to be sailed to arrive Scapa at 0900A/29. (A.C.O.S. 1230A/28 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick). Intend to sail your 1230A/28 at 1800A. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 1609A/28 to A.C.O.S.) Westbound Convoy much drawn out is passing East and North of Orkneys. You may meet during the night. Inform O.14. (A.C.O.S. 1810A/28 to LOCH MONTEITH).
BURZA.	Intend sailing BURZA 1300A/30 to R/V with EAGLE at Clyde Boom at 1800A/30. On arrival at Bar L.V. BURZA will proceed to R/V with BB 95 in position X at 1800A/31. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1612A/28).
ASCANIA. WOLFE. MALOJA.	The following berths are allocated at Southampton to A.M.C's ASCANIA, WOLFE, MALOJA. Ships are to proceed to Southampton in that order. MALOJA to arrive 30 minutes after WOLFE. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1627A/28).
SUNFISH.	Admiralty 2119A/26 and 1155A/27. I desire that SUNFISH should proceed from Southend to Portsmouth with a C.W. Convoy about 8/11. 2. Suggest she should be sailed for Harwich with F.S. 38 where Tug STALWART will take over tow from CHAMPION. 3. If you concur intend to sail one destroyer to arrive Tyne 4/11 and act as escort to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore 1650A/28 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).
SEALION.	SEALION and WHITEBEAR sailed in accordance with my 1501A/27. Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (A.C.O.S. 1805A/28).
ROYAL SOVEREIGN.	Admiralty's 1343A/27. Following programme is proposed for ROYAL SOVEREIGN allowing two spare days for weather and other contingencies. (ROYAL SOVEREIGN 1812/28).

/PETUNIA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

PETUNIA. Tug not arrived. (PETUNIA 2001Z/28).

WRESTLER. C. in C. S.A's 2010N/13 and 1701N/25. WRESTLER can be taken in hand for refit at Portsmouth. She is expected to arrive mid-November. (D.O.D. H. 2107A/28).

Information for DEPTFORD, HEEMSKIRK, CELANDINE, ALYNBANK. S/M SEAWOLF escorted by CUTTY SARK Northbound in Irish Sea may be met during the night. (C. in C. W.A. 2205A/28 and 2307A/28).

Operations.

Operation "Table". Operation postponed 24 hours. If weather moderates programme will be carried out tomorrow, leaving Harwich 0900. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1053A/28).

Operation "Pantaloon". ATHENE will carry to maximum accommodation 30 officers and 40 ORS. (F.A.R.E.O. Glasgow 1300/28).
ARGUS 1247/27. Air Ministry report following numbers require accommodation:-
(a) ARGUS 22 officers 37 N.C.O's 112 airmen.
ATHENE 20 officers 2 N.C.O's 40 airmen.
2. From information available in Admiralty there will only be accommodation for a further 13 officers in ARGUS. Please confirm. (D.O.D.F. 1525A/28 to ARGUS, ATHENE).

Exercises at Dover. Intention signified in your 1906A/27 is concurred in. O.C. Troop should keep his brigadier informed of movements. (D.C.O. 1351A/28 to V.A. Dover).

Patrol. Intend sailing M.G.B. 325 to the southward at 1530 to-day, returning Dartmouth dawn/29. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1441/28).

Anti E-boat Patrol. Cancel my 1543A/27.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1515A/28).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941:
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Bombing operations.

On 27/10 three Blenheims attacked a south-bound convoy consisting of four M/V's of 1500 to 3000 tons and four Flakships, eight miles N.W. of Den Helder. Results unobserved. On night 27/28 there were no operations owing to the weather. (H.Q.B.C. 0035/28).

Patrols.

"Trost", "Stab", and "North Bert" in operation. "Hornli" being flown later in the day. (C. in C. Rosyth 0653/28).
P.R.U. of Namsos, Trondheim, Bergen, now being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth 1053/28).
P.R.U. of Stavanger, Oslo, A.D. Kristiansand now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1121/28).
My 0653/28. "Trost" 10%. "South Stab" 80%. "North Bert" 10%. (C. in C. Rosyth 1805/28).
My 0653/28. "Hornli North" 100%. "Hornli South" 50%. (C. in C. Rosyth 1911/28).

821 Squadron.

Cancel my 1316A/25.
(R.A.N.A.S. 1150A/28 to Hatston).

Enemy Air Activity.

Faroes attacked.

One enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs in (?Westmanshavn) Harbour at 1005 today. No damage or casualties. Subsequently reconnoitered Skaale Fiord where S.O. 4th M/S flotilla and attendant ships all lying. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1050A/28).

Mining.

Bristol Channel.

My 2218A/26. All Bristol Channel ports with exception of Watchet and River Parrett are open until 1630 today when they will again be closed. It is hoped to re-open for P.M. tide tomorrow. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1039A/28).

MANXMAN.

F.O.I.C. Southampton 1212/26, which has been repeated to R.A. (M). Request you will sail MANXMAN for Port Z.A. when ready.
-(D.D.O.D. M. 1052A/28 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

S.N. 83.A.

Your 1114/24 and my 1212/25. Concur proposal to sail for S.N. 83.A. on 30/10.
(C. in C. H.F. 1214A/28 to R.A.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

LILIUM (D.G. Drifter) — Sank in No. 3 dock Methil a.m. today after being holed by S.S. CIRCE II manoeuvring in dock. Was lying alongside at time of collision. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1022/28).

DAGENHAM. — F.N. 38. DAGENHAM with broken steering gear. Am standing by to tow if necessary. Tugs have been requested from Humber. Have instructed H.M.S. SHEARWATER to escort to Humber. (WINCHESTER 1023A/28).
Tug SABINE is proceeding to assist DAGENHAM. Order TURQUOISE to stand by. When tug arrives DAGENHAM and TURQUOISE should proceed to Yarmouth unless weather moderates. Fighter protection arranged. (C. in C. Nore 1035A/28).
DAGENHAM is reported in danger of going ashore in Sheringham Shoals. Investigate and render any assistance possible. (C. in C. Nore 1041A/28 to WINCHESTER).
Immingham departure SABINE at 1105 to assist DAGENHAM. (F.O. Humber 1109A/28).
My 1109A/28. Tug SABINE returned to Grimsby. Will proceed as soon as weather moderates. (F.O. Humber 1354A/28).
Your 1145. Tug reported unable to face weather. If you cannot make headway instruct DAGENHAM to anchor or proceed Yarmouth at your discretion. SHEARWATER or TURQUOISE is to remain with DAGENHAM. (C. in C. Nore 1409A/28 to WINCHESTER.)
DAGENHAM attempting to effect temporary repairs steering gear. Intend her to proceed in company with me during the night to avoid anchoring off Humber in existing weather. (WINCHESTER 1730/28).
DAGENHAM now proceeding with convoy with repairs effected. (WINCHESTER 1829A/28).

SILJA. — My 1521A/27. SILJA refloated 1230A/28. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1241A/28).

EMPIRE MOONBEAM. — Ex. W.N. 98 returned to Oban damaged in collision with MOUNT PELION. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1430A/28).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — Was docked at 1320 today. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2212/28).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

O.G.76.

My 1235A/27. Convoy is to be sailed as soon as possible. N.C.S.O. Mersey is to signal new R/V for other sections and is to report anticipated time of sailing from Bar L.V. (C. in C. W.A. 0807A/28).
O.G. 76 is to be sailed as soon as possible. (V.C.N.S. 0830/28).

Convoy "Stratum".

Cancel my 0820A/28 and postpone 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Swansea 1015A/28 to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

H.X.156.
O.N.S.29.

Route of H.X. 156 has been altered to southward to avoid U-Boats. Corvettes on Iceland portion of O.N.S. 29 leave convoy forthwith and steer for 053° N. 022° 30' W. Remaining Corvettes steer for same position on relief. Report E.T.A. at this position on crossing 057° 30' N. Destroyers proceed at best speed to Iceland on relief. (C. in C. W.A. 1202A/28 to BROKE, etc.)

O.N.S. 29.

My 2141/26. Merchant Ships from Iceland returned having become detached from escort. (A.C.I.C. 1215/28).

A/C communication with single M/V's.

Aircraft have been instructed to obtain the names of single M/V's in the Western Approaches with a view to improving the accuracy of the plot at A.C.H.Q. but difficulty and delays have been experienced in V/S signalling.
With a view to standardising and simplifying V/S procedure between ships and aircraft, request following instructions may be issued to Merchant Ships:- Aircraft wishing to obtain the name of a Merchant vessel, will flash the International signal "S.C." (what is the name of your vessel?) and Merchant Ships are to reply by flashing their signal letters.
This procedure is established to simplify signalling and to save time. It provides no guarantee of the friendly character of the aircraft and A/A precautions are not to be relaxed merely because "S.C" is received. (C. in C. W.A. 1234A/28 to Admty.)

/O.N.30.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.10.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

O.N.30. NORTHERN GEM reports position at 1040A 092° Barra Head, speed 7. 9 Ships in sight. (ARABIS 1340A/28 to MALCOLM).
Report situation when clear of Minches. (C. in C. W.A. 1910A/28 to MALCOLM).
Your 1426A/28. O.N. 30 8 hours late. Speed 5 knots. Convoy stragglers 30 miles. Weather report 57° 58' N. 05° 54' W. (MALCOLM 2001A/28).

E.C.90. Centre part passing 33 buoy 1600. Speed 5 knots. Convoy much scattered. (GLEANER 1630A/28).
Your 1536. Commodore of E.C.90 now reports intention of heaving to off 35 Buoy as many ships are unmanageable and entering Pentland Firth at Pipp. (GLEANER 1830/28 to A.C.O.S.)
E.C.90 passing 34 buoy. Commodore intends heaving to leading ships at 35 buoy to allow stragglers to catch up. Propose using route P tomorrow morning. (MAZURKA 1831A/28).
Your 1831A/28 approved. Cancel my 1536/28. Noss Head light ordered 5 minutes every half hour. (A.C.O.S. 1919/28 to MAZURKA).
My 1810/28. Convoy now heaving to off Noss Head until daylight. (A.C.O.S. 1947/28 to LOCH MONTEITH).
Your 1919/28. Proceeding vicinity 35 Buoy 0430/29. E. T.A. Duncansby Head 0800/29. (MAZURKA 2218A/28 to A.C.O.S.)

DAGNY. Your 0941/21/10. DAGNY not arrived. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1642/28).

F.S.38. WINCHESTER 1730. Van of F.S. No. 38 is at 62 C buoy with 7 ships making good 4 knots and unable to rejoin at Reassembly. SHEARWATER indicate number of ships seen on muster in addition to 10 names passed to her by WALLACE. (WALLACE 1835A/28)
WALLACE's 1835/28. 6 ships seen. S.S. DAGENHAM in company. Proceeding Humber S.S. TREHATA, E.T.A. Humber L.V. 2230A/. (SHEARWATER 2007A/28).

/H.X. 155.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

H.X. 155. H.X. 155 scattered by gale. Commodore and 17 Merchant ships in company. E.T.A. Loch Ewe 1000. Escorted by VANOC. Clyde portion escorted by VOLUNTEER. Liverpool portion escorted by GENTIAN. CAMPANULA and HONEYSUCKLE proceeding independently with 9 and 14 Merchant ships respectively. (VANOC 1915A/28).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

Raider Situation.

1. A.M. 2342/21 and 1134A/22. U.S.N. Tanker PATOKA sighted unidentified ship 06° 44' S., 34° 26' W., on 22/10. Possibly supply ship.
2. On 14/10 BIRMINGHAM received a transmission possibly from enemy unit within 50 miles of 19° S., 37° W. Possibility that transmission emanated from one of H.M. Ships at much greater distance cannot be ignored.
3. Swedish PACIFIC arrived. Dutch OLIVIA made unspecified type distress message on 20/10 from 01° N., 55° E. No confirmatory evidence of Raider in Indian Ocean.
4. On 6/10 British IDOMENEUS in 39° S., 158° W., heard Q distress message estimated within 200 miles. Only ship known to be in area was EMPIRE STARLIGHT due Panama 28/10. On 1/10 Auckland intercepted probable raider - supply ship intercommunication and 4/10 D/F indicated German unit probably E. of New Zealand.
5. WARRIOR arrived Rangoon without calling Capetown.
(D.D.I.C., 2142A/28)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Lubricating oil at P. Delgada. — There is no stock of engine lubricating oil at Ponta Delgada. Request ships calling here be warned accordingly.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1034/28 to Admty).

CAUDEBEC. — French CAUDEBEC. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1135/28).

RORQUAL. — RORQUAL sailed 1145A/28 routed through position (A) 350°. Spartel 10 miles (B) 036° 35' N., 007° 00' W., (C) 180° St. Vincent Cape 20 miles (D) 038° 15' N., 010° 40' W., 10½ knots. Estimate position RORQUAL at 2000A/28 is 036° 25' N., 006° 42' W.
(2) ALOUETTE keep 20 miles Northward RORQUAL's route. (3) ALOUETTE acknowledge forthwith.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1202A to Admty, 1204A/28 to ALOUETTE).

/Following.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RORQUAL Contd.

Following movements may affect you.
(i) VIDETTE 037° 00' 012° 05' to (Gibraltar?) 15 knots.
(ii) WISHART 032° 21' 015° 00' through 039° 00' (015?) 00' thence 122° 14 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1836A/28 to RORQUAL)

DUNCAN.

DUNCAN by night remains with H.G.75 convoy until prudent limit of endurance (?and) then proceed Ponta Delgada to fuel. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada is to be reported when 100 miles clear of convoy. (F.O.C.N.A., 1228A/28 to DUNCAN)

MALAYA, HOEGH HOOD, CLAN MACDONALD.

When (?entering) harbour MALAYA took a sheer ramming HOEGH HOOD at 53 berth detached mole.
(ii) HOEGH HOOD broke adrift rammed CLAN MACDONALD at 52 berth.
(iii) MALAYA small holes in forecastle, sheet plating broken repair completes 29/10.
(iv) CLAN MACDONALD. Repair to make seaworthy completes 31/10.
(v) HOEGH HOOD extensively damaged ?upper deck level. At least 6 weeks work to repair.
Fuller report follows.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1230A/28)

TETRARCH.

Pass 037° 00' 001° 00' E., and 035° 42' 003° 00' W. Arrive off Europa Point not later than 1800 1st. If unable to comply arrive 0800 2nd report your intentions on crossing 001° E. At your discretion report P.C. and S. of A. on crossing 007° E.
Shift normal W/T watch to Gibraltar broadcast 44.8 k/cs at 0600 31st.
Total bombing restrictions arranged.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1408A/28 to TETRARCH)

Air escorts and Search.

202 Squadron one Catalina escort to Tanker DINGLEDALE (from S.W. to Gib) 0930 to 1700 area covered 35.20 N., 07.50 W. to 35.50 N., 06.40 W.
209 Squadron one Catalina escort to C/V 0896 1600 to 2245 area covered 36.46 N., 15.46 W. to 36.35 N., 14.50 W.
807 Squadron one Fulmar search for EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. 1930 to 1230. Area covered Gib. to 0200 W. (200 Group, 1720/28)

/SURVILLE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

SURVILLE. My 1701/26 final loading still delayed due to weather probably sailing 30/10 possibly p.m./29. (N.A. Lisbon, 1758/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Spanish protest. My 0020/23. Embassy has now received verbal protest against entry into Momifa port night of October 11th of M.L. with no lights. It is stated there were 4 people on bridge one of whom used a hand torch to identify Spanish Naval Tug. R.16.
I have been into this thoroughly at Ministry of Marine and seen report which is most positive about whole affair.
Minister of Marine infrms me he has now received written report from Algeciras on discussions about depth charges etc. and that it was generally satisfactory except on certain points he proposes to explain to me before I leave for Gibraltar tomorrow. (N.A. Madrid, 1803/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

Shipping Routes. Ref. A.M. 0001/1/5/41 section 4 para.12 request this instruction may be cancelled.
(C. in C. S.A., 1150N/28 to Admty)

Convoy S.L.91. My 2220N/26. Seven ships did not arrive.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1248N/28 to Admty).

Oilers. My 1431/28. With Oilers now available at Freetown do not consider RAPIDOL can always be available for this service, particularly as ECHODALE may at any time be required for operations in South Atlantic and too great use of DEWDALE and ENERDALE interferes with training. Two latter are not suitable as Mobile Oilers. Also considered important to have Oiler at Bathurst if fuelling of escorts at sea contemplated as a routine. Additional small oiler therefore required at Freetown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1436N/28 to Admty).

/Movements.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.10.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Movements of Ships on W. African coast.	Your 2855A/20 para. 8. Consider A/S escort should be sufficient but additional cover by a cruiser will be given if not required for more important duties. (C. in C. S.A., 1545N/28 to Admty).
Troop Transport.	Proposals re C.M.21, etc. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1707B/28 to D. of S.T.)
WARSPITE Programme.	Please pass following to F.O. Force G., on arrival:- "Contents of Admty 2201/27 to WARSPITE". (D.O.D. (F), 1739A/28 to C. in C. S.A.)
Air H.Q.	A.H.Q. West Africa came into being with effect from 22/10. Air Commodore E.A.B. Rice C.B.E. M.C. assumed command of R.A.F. West Africa with effect from same date. (Air Ministry, 2022/28).
EURYALUS, HEYTHROP.	(?Capetown) departure 28/10 (i) 1507Z, EURYALUS for Mombasa, S. of A. 20 knots, E.T.A. (?06)00Z/3/11 (ii) 1619Z HEYTHROP for Durban, S. of A., 15 knots, E.T.A. 0500Z/31. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2207Z/28 to Admty)etc).
S.S. GENERAL FOCH.	Cancel A.M.1544A/27. Ship is not to be intercepted on this voyage. (A.C.N.S. (F), 2243A/28 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

MOST SECRET.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

P.31. P.31 leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' approx. 2000A/29 on course 30°.
(Capt. (S) 10, 1020A/28 2135B/28 UNBEATEN).

Air Operations. (1) Night October 25/26.
2. F.A.A. Albacores dropped flares to illuminate Bardia Harbour for bombardment by H.M. Ships, aircraft also bombed coast defence and A.A. guns on Southern Headland at entrance to harbour bombs straddling latter.
Night October 26/27. 4 Wellingtons made high level attack on Benghazi Harbour bombs bursting on Cathedral Mole and buildings in town North of it.
Day 27/10. During morning 9 Marylands bombed railway sidings and bases of Cathedral and Central Moles Benghazi from 19,000 feet, bombs burst on railway sidings and workshops starting a fire at latter and straddled Governorate and Military buildings behind Central Mole.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1118/28).
Patrol Cagliari Naples sighted 1205 hours 1 submarine on surface 075°. Cape Carronara 45 miles course 064° 5 knots.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 2133/28).

AETOS. Following programme for Greek Destroyer AETOS is intended. (From Alexandria 12/10 to Aden 17/10) (C. in C. Med., 1136B/28).

CLAN FERGUSON, SYDNEY STAR. Reference my 1134A/25 and Admty's 1149A/25. Weather appears to be now breaking. I am not clear whether CLAN FERGUSON is to remain at Malta for an indefinite period. I should be glad of a decision whether SYDNEY STAR now repaired should be sailed as opportunity occurs. (V.A. Malta, 1210A/28) Reply: 0012/29)

Turkish defences. Admty. 1819A/20 to C. in C. Med., anticipate manning Turkish defences by British personnel. This would be an exceedingly delicate propozition to put and a most difficult one to justify. It is considered during peace time Turks should take over control station after training period. (N.A. Angora, 1248B/28 to C. in C. Med) Reply 1602/30.

/TIGRE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TIGRE and 2 other ships scuttled.	Dutch Charge D'Affaires at Djedda reports three vessels reached (?beached) and scuttled about 20' south of Djedda. One vessel is destroyer TIGRE. Further report is required as to possibilities of salvage. Vessels reported undamaged. Charge D'Affaires says it would be necessary to negotiate with Ibn Saud for acquisition if salvage is considered practicable.(Director of Salvage, 1529A/28 to F.O.C. Red Sea)
Enemy Convoy.	My 1621B/27 at 0800B/28. Convoy of 2 (?ships) in 031° 30' 017° 06' course 090° speed 6.5 knots. (Capt. (S) 1, 1541B/28 to THRASHER).
Enemy Cruiser.	Italian cruiser believed to be at sea probably from Taranto. (Capt. S.10., 1829A/28 to 10 S.M.F., TRUSTY, THRASHER)
Turkey.	Proposals for delivery of new destroyers and submarines. (N.A. Angora, 1843B/28, from Adm. -Kelly, to Admty). See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

ANNA MARCOU. Panamanian ANNA MARCOU made an S.O.S. Distress signal at 2221Z/26 when in 08° 40' N., 50° 40' E., reported herself in trouble and asked for tow. Hospital ship LLANDOVERY CASTLE has taken ANNA MARCOU in tow and expects to arrive Aden P.M./30.
(C. in C.E.I., 0450Z/28 to Adty.)

Port T. GUARDIAN. GUARDIAN considers with (? 8) nets available here no difficulty should arise in laying baffle C. in approx., position as laid down in Admty., 1502/30/8, but additional nets are being taken in case survey (? shows) alterations to be necessary.
(ii) I therefore intend following programme for GUARDIAN (A) 1/11, leave Colombo route (corrupt group) defences (B) 4/11, commence survey for Baffle C and laying in order D,C,A,B, BB (C) (?December) 15 approx., laying programme (? completed). GUARDIAN return to Colombo to embark nets for Nancowry proceeding thence as ordered by C. in C. China.
(C. in C.E.I., 1140Z/28 to Admty.)

Local defences of Addu Atoll. Your 1832/23. (a) 15/12 (b) 15/11, (c) 11/11.
(C. in C.E.I., 1144Z/28 to Adty.)

S/M at Jibuti. 1 Submarine found Jibuti harbour.
(A.H.Q., Aden 1754/28.)

Reporting of U.S. M.V.s. Your 0506Z/11. U.S. Authorities advise that U.S. Consuls are now utilising a more secure code than formerly for reporting movements of U.S. merchant vessels and a still more secure system will be introduced in near future. General question of instructions to Masters and owners regarding security of transmission of messages is under active consideration by U.S. authorities. Their decision will be promulgated in due course.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2027A/28 to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Sarawak oil fields.

Your 1936/1. Request early decision whether or not Sarawak oil fields are to be completely closed down.
2. About 80% surplus equipment and personnel has now been removed to Singapore and this should be completed in a fortnight.
3. If present production is to continue:-
(a) remaining well could be plugged and plant immobilised in one week vide my 0351/9.
(b) plant could be immobilised but well not repeat not plugged in 8 hours.
4. In view of exposed position of Seriafield and as troops for its defence are not available above warning cannot be relied upon.
5. Only sure way of denying oil to enemy is therefore to close down fields completely.
(C. in C. China 0511Z/28 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

PRINCE HENRY.

Leave Bermuda 30/10 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax so as to arrive 1/11.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 0932Q/28 to PRINCE HENRY.)

CIRCASSIA VAN KINSBERGEN.

Departure 28/10 CIRCASSIA VAN KINSBERGEN in accordance with your 1212Q/18.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain 0935Q/28 to C. in C.W.I.)

Corvettes refitting.

N.S.H.Q., Ottawa's 1559/21. B.A.R.M. is requested to confirm the date when MAYFLOWER and EYEBRIGHT will be required at American Yard.
2. It is desired to prepare a programme which will:-
(a) always have 2 corvettes refitting in U.S.A.
(b) provide these corvettes from the British owned ships of N.F.E.F. manned by R.N. and R.C.N. in order to avoid time wasted giving preliminary leave and on passage by corvettes from U.K.
(c) give preference to these which need reconstruction of forecastle and bridges where other considerations permit.

/3. Free.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Corvettes refitting (Contd.)

3. Free French corvettes are not to be sent to U.S.A. to refit. B.A.R.M. is however requested to state reason given for exclusion of these British owned vessels from Lease Lend arrangements.
4. N.S.H.Q., Ottawa is requested to propose a programme which will meet the foregoing requirements as far as possible.
5. As Lease-Lend arrangements are not applicable to Canadian ships, it is proposed that refits of any Canadian manned R.N. Corvettes included in this programme should be regarded as Admiralty liability.
(Hd. of M. 1248A/28.)

PETUNIA.

PETUNIA has now awaited the arrival of tugs at Julianehaab since 16/10. She is required for refit programme in U.K. N.S.H.Q., Ottawa is requested to report whereabouts of tugs.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1301A/29 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, C. in C.W.A.)

Your 1559Z/21.
MAYFLOWER Job No. S 223 and EYEBRIGHT S 224 can be accepted as proposed. EYEBRIGHT can be taken about 14/11 as requested in C.C.N.F., 1445Z/27.
(B.A.R.M., Washington 1314R/28 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.

S.S.STEEL ENGINEER.

My 2311R/26. Ship reported at Puget Sound.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1508R/28.)

Suspicious sailing vessel.

Adty., 1146/9/41. MALVINA (Dutch) reports 0900/12 in 043 06 N., 034 40 W., one sailing vessel three masts 250 tons course N.E. no other details.
(S.O.(I)Jamaica 1522R/28.)

Canadian corvettes for O.N.convoy.

Grateful for earliest information as to anticipated time O.N. convoy Canadian corvettes ex Tobermory will be sailed so that arrangements for their successors can be made.
(C.C.N.F., 1534Z/28 to F.O.I.C., Greenock, Cdre, WESTERN ISLES.)

ACADIA.

Your 1152N/23. ACADIA's future movements not yet known. Escort is returning to Recife.
(B.A.D., Washington 1733R/28 to C. in C.S.A.)

/S.S.HATASU....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

S.S.HATASU (sunk 2/10.) — Your 1740A/23/9 HATASU has not arrived this side.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 2137Z/28 to Adty.)

PIETRO CAMPANELLA. (Italian.) — Departure 27/10. - Norfolk.
(Baltimore 2317Z/27.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

H.G. 75.
ULEA
sunk.

The following has been read 41-17 N. 21-40 W. ULEA torpedoed. (Liverpool W/T 0420/28).
ULEA torpedoed and sank immediately at 0012Z/28 in 041° 13' N. 021° 38' W. 9 of her crew saved. One U-Boat known from H/F D/F to have been in close proximity, but contact was not made before or after the attack, General shortage of depth charges illuminants and fuel is developing. LAMERTON in company. DUNCAN leaves noon today. Weather report 2785 6865 0704.
(ROCHESTER 1000Z/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
Following is BLUEBELL's 1110/28 addressed ROCHESTER (begins) Information re ULEA from survivors. U-boat approached on surface from astern. One starboard side machine gun was turned on U-boat and attempt to ram made. Ship was torpedoed on starboard side amidships whilst turning. (ROCHESTER 1205Z/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

HATASU
(torpedoed
2/10)

My 1057/27. HATASU torpedoed while in convoy about 2000/2 approx 600 miles East of Cape Race. Of 2 boats launched one only accounted for. (N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1113/28).

Submarines Reported.

0854Z.

D/F bearings on 7640 KC/s at 0854Z/28 indicate that a German U-boat is in the immediate vicinity of Convoy O.N. 28 and may have reported the convoy. (D.D.I.C. 1123A/28 to Opnav).

1233.

One submarine on the surface bearing 210° 6 miles course unknown position 42° 5' N. 21° 50' W. (DUNCAN 1233/28 to Gibraltar W/T).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1328A/28).

1340.

Enemy S/M in position 60° 24' N. 17° 55' W. was sighted on surface and observed to dive on a course 290° speed 10 knots.
(A/C 1340/28, HECLA 1906Z/28 to KINGCUP).

/1214.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

1214. 12 (Corrupt group) fix Italian U-boat 67 N. on 8520 KC/s at 1214 within 30 miles 42.00 N. 21.00 W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1614A/28 to Escorts of H.G. 75).

16/10. H.N.L.O. West Africa reports Spanish ALDECOA reports being stopped on 16/10 by Submarine of unknown nationality incalculated position 10° 15' N. 17° 30' W. Submarine had two guns, crew in shorts. (C. in C. S.A. 1733N/28 to Adty.)

1917 G.M.T. Serial 7 O.N. 28, Serial 11 H.X. 156, Serial 14 S.C.50. D/F Bearings on 8365 KC/s at 1917 G.M.T. indicated that convoys O.N. 28 or S.C.50 or H.X. 156 may have been reported by a German U-boat. (Opnav 2215/28 to For Action Cmdre Task Unit No. 4.1.3. No. 4.1.6. Cmdre Task Unit No. 4.1.13.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. Wellington A/C D/221 attacked at 1337/28 U/B first sighted on the surface, co. 290°, 60.24 N. 17.53 W., 375' W.N.W. of Butt of Lewis. (D.S. 785, 29/10).

By H.M.C.S. MORDEN. MORDEN reports 5153 N. 5510 W. attacking Submarine have dropped two patterns. Distinctly saw Oil slick. T.O.O. 1435Z/28. Ends.
(C.C.N.F. 1659Z/28 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1845Z/28).
C.C. Newfoundland 1659Z/28 passed for information. (C.O.A.C. 1914Z/28 to Admty. Opnav).

By A/C. Following has been read.
Am over enemy S/M in 59.05 N. (? 12) 28 W. enemy S/M was sighted on surface and observed to submerge when first sighted was on course 330°. Have attacked with (? depth charges) and estimate (? 2 hits) T.C. 98 29 22 P.
(A/C No. 2 of 15 Group 1640/28).
W.D. Note - D.S. 785 gives position 59.55 N., 19.28 W., 415' W.X. N. of Butt of Lewis.

/By.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.10.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked-Contd.

By DUNCAN at 1300.

Your 1288/28 understood. Am rejoining convoy. Intend to part convoy 0800Z/29th. My 1233 no certain result only 5depth charges left. My position 041° 52' N. 022° 00' W.
(DUNCAN 1701Z/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)
DUNCAN attacked U/B sighted on surface at approx 1300/28 in 42.01 N., 21.54 W., 600' W. of Vigo. (D.S. 785).

By U.S. Task Force.

At 1430/28 U.S. Task Force attacked possible P/S and contact with 10 D/C's. No result observed. (D.S. 785).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

PRINCE OF WALES. Four T.S.D.S. Fleet destroyers are to join PRINCE OF WALES (Flag-ship of C. in C. Eastern Fleet) Two of these ELECTRA and EXPRESS are accompanying her from U.K. and C. in C. Med., is to send two T.S.D.S Fleet destroyers to join her at Trincomalee by 1/12.

Vest Fiord patrol. The C. in C. Soviet Northern Fleet proposes to sail a S/M today to operate at Vest Fiord.

Weather. The northerly gale continues to disorganise shipping movements. Convoy F.N.39 is postponed 24 hours, F.S.33 is cancelled. W.N.98 hove to in the early hours north of the Orkneys. F.N.38 is scattered. Many ships did not sail for convoys, and others have put in to harbour for Shelter.

F.S.34 is cancelled on account of lack of escorts.

WOLFE. WOLFE is not now to be returned to trade but is to be fitted out as a S/M depot ship.

CELANDINE. (Corvette) escorting O.N.31 was damaged about 1800 in collision in the North Channel and returned to Liverpool.

British Air Operations.

13 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Cherbourg docks last night.

Attack on shipping off Aalesund. 9 Hudsons of 220 Squadron Coastal Command to-night attacked shipping off Aalesund and claim to have hit 7 ships including one escort. One ship is claimed as sunk and two others as left sinking. The harbour works, a fish oil factory, and W/T station were also attacked.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Bristol Channel. — The majority of the ports were open today some with restrictions, e.g. Cardiff, , Penarth, Newport and Barry which are closed at night.

North Atlantic.

Air Attack. — S.S. SARASTONE and BARON NEWLANDS were attacked just off the mouth of the Huelva at 2300 today by a F.W. aircraft which came from land. SARASTONE was sunk by direct hit 1½ miles from shore. BARON NEWLANDS was then attacked while still in the channel, but drove off the enemy and was undamaged.

Mediterranean.

Destroyer re-inforcements. — Details of destroyer reinforcements for C. in C. Med., are given in Admty. 0155A/29.

Air Operations. — 12 Blenheims attacked the Marina di Catanzaro today.

S.S. EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. — This ship, which sailed from Malta at 1000/22 for Gibraltar has not arrived at Gibraltar and air reconnaissance has failed to locate her. The Italians claimed to have sunk a vessel on 24/10 west of Galiota Island by torpedo from an aircraft about the time EMPIRE GUILLEMOT should have been in that position. 20 survivors were picked up off Bona, Algeria.

/Libya.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Libya & Western Desert. — Six Wellingtons kept up a nuisance raid on Tripoli for about 8 hours today.

Egypt. — There was an air raid on Alexandria from 1900 to 2015, by about 12 aircraft. There were no Naval casualties or damage.

Australia.

The number of mines accounted for up to the middle of August 1941 is reported to be as follows:-

Cape Otway.	10
Wilsons Promontory	19
N.S.W.	9
S. Australia	10
W. Australia	1
Tasmania	1
	50

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Port Edgar Patrol Boats.

A.L. M 016681 /41 of 25th October following action is to be taken forthwith:-
(1) Inshore auxiliary patrol is to be withdrawn and boats prepared for disposal as ordered in Admiralty letter.
(2) Para. 8. M.F.V.'s in category B are to be retained until orders for their return to their owners are received.
(3) Para. 9. N.A.B. in category B are to be laid up and reduced to C and M forthwith.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1036/29)

Flag of R.A.M.

My flag will be transferred to MENESTHEUS A.M./30. (R.A.M., 1217A/29)

Scapa D.C. Target Unit.

Your 2256A/21/9.
1. Approved in principle to establish a base at Scapa for operation of D.C. Target unit.
(Vice Controller, 1617A/29 to C. in C. H.F.)

WOLFE.

WOLFE is not now to be returned to trade but is to be fitted out as Submarine Depot Ship. Ship is to be retained at Southampton until port at which she is to be fitted out has been decided. (Head of M. 2155A/29).

Icebreaker situation.

Following for Maclay.
Your 3 para. 19. Russian Ambassador has indicated that he is still thinking in terms of about fifty ships per month to Archangel. On practicability of this being questioned Ambassador stated that all icebreakers usually operating on north about route Archangel - Vladivostok would be concentrated at Archangel. He anticipated ten icebreakers available but could certainly guarantee 8/10. In view of the above please do your best ascertain actual icebreaker situation and cable details.
(D. of S.T., 2359A/29 to N.C.S.O. Archangel).

Co-operation with Russia.

Use of Murmansk.

Naval 81. For War Transport from Maclay Tel. No. 0015. Your 2244/18 R.A.F Wing now reports regarding use of Murmansk railway as follows (quoted). Russian authorities Archangel at my request are asking Moscow to reconsider possibility of using Murmansk even for occasional or emergency convoys So far impossible to obtain advice regarding capacity of railway as Russians here unwilling to discuss unless Moscow agrees to principles.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1820C/29 to Admty).

/10.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia. - Contd.

10 CHUKA class submarine 402 torpedoed and sank 4,000 ton unescorted M/V on 17/10 in 70° 20' N., 22° 09' E. Traffic continuing to use passage south of Sildin Island, and Stjernsund. Admiralty pass to F.O.S. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1542C/29).

Movements.

Information for CHARLESTON, NEWARK. — SEAWOLF escorted by CUTTY SARK bound through North Channel for Scapa may be met during the night. (C. in C. W.A., 0359A/29 to CHARLESTON).

LOCH MONTEITH. — C.14 is to seaward of you and considers you may be too close inshore. (A.C.O.S., 0447A/29 to LOCH MONTEITH).

EAGLE, BURZA. — Intend sailing EAGLE escorted by BURZA for Liverpool passing Clyde boom 1800A/30. E.T.A. Bar L.V. 1200A/31. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1024A/29).

RAMILLIES's refit is to be extended as far as will allow her to arrive Scapa on 19/11 for short work up. (A.C.N.S. F., 1105A/29 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

RORQUAL. — (i) Intend to sail LA CAPRICIEUSE at 2000A/1 to R/V with RORQUAL in 250° Trevose Head 10 miles at 0745A/3 and escort her to Holy Loch. E.T.A. Holy Loch 1600A/4.
(ii) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange Fighter co-operation. Speed of Advance 12 knots. (Capt. S.3., 1109A/29).

ARETHUSA. — ARETHUSA is to be sailed for Rosyth at 0100/1. N.O.I.C. Tyne is requested to sail LAIRDS ISLE and 1 Escort Force, Rosyth destroyer as S.A. escort to ARETHUSA. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1111/29).

/SUNFISH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
-Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SUNFISH. Your 1650A/28. Concur, but SUNFISH and escort should be sailed to join F.S.38 in daylight A.M./5 in the vicinity of Whitby. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1113/29).

EAGLE. A.T.1944A/21 and A.T.1849A/22. Date of completion postponed to 1/12. (D.O.D. F., 1217A/29).

ELECTRA, EXPRESS. Two and half hours delay in commencement of fuelling. Hope to sail both ships at (1700?) G.M.T. (ELECTRA 1340Z/29 to S.O. Force G).

OTWAY. N.O.I.C. Greenock's 1714A/28. At 2200A/2 intend to sail OTWAY escorted by KINGFISHER from Clyde to arrive at 075° Dunagree Point 8 miles at 0800A/3. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail OTWAY escorted to Campbeltown on completion of trials and to arrange fighter protection for both passages. (Capt. S.7.1416A/29)

JAY. My 0814/21. JAY, MYRLAND, and KENART delayed Clyde pending repairs to JAY. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1644/29).

Destroyers meet A.M.Cs. in position X at 1430Z/31. Routed as in my 1151A/29. (C. in C. W.A., 2115A/29 to VANQUISHER).

P.35. F.O.S. 2241A/29. Intend to sail P.35 escorted by LOCH MONTEITH for Scapa 1800A/30. E.T.A. 1400A/31. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange fighter protection. (Capt. S.9., 2301A/29).

Escorts for ARGUS and RODNEY. Admiralty's 1037A/29. Request you will sail HIGHLANDER, HAVELOCK, and HARVESTER from Londonderry to R/V with LAFOREY, ARGUS and ATHENE as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock. 9th escort group are to meet RODNEY and escort to U.K. (C. in C. W.A., 2340A/29 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Table". — Postponed for further 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0909A/29).

Operation "Pantaloon" and RODNEY. — Intend sailing HAVELOCK and HARVESTER a.m./30 in accordance with C. in C. W.A.'s 1641A/26. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0957A/29)
Your 1525A/28/10. Following accommodation is available:-
Officers 28, N.C.Os. 16 others 80.
It is regretted that no increase on these numbers can be accepted as owing to increase in ship's complement the essential services of this ship under above conditions are gravely overburdened.
(ARGUS, 1019/29 to Admty).
C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ARGUS, ATHENE, and LAFOREY from Clyde P.M./1 for Gibraltar. LAFOREY is to join Force H on arrival.
2. ARGUS will carry 2 operational Swordfish aircraft.
3. Speed of ATHENE 16 knots.
4. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange with F.O. Force H to sail RODNEY for U.K. escorted by 3 destroyers to meet ARGUS convoy at R/V "K" when escorts will be exchanged.
5. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to propose R/V "K".
6. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide additional escort of 3 destroyers for ARGUS convoy who will escort RODNEY to U.K. from R/V "K". (A.C.N.S. F., 1037/29).

TRIDENT Patrol off -Svaholthavet. — TRIDENT sails Polyarno for patrol Svaholthavet p.m./30th. Carrying 12 torpedoes only, as no external torpedoes were included among 32 torpedoes received from convoy P.Q.1. Following S.Ps. held. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1440C/29).

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — Admiralty 49/G5/29/11. New area for moonlight Rover patrol proposed as follows - Thornaby to VCKL 4500 to RLUB 0530 to Thornaby. This to be started as soon as weather permits, number of A/C and time of patrol at your discretion. (18 Group 1125/29 to Thornaby).

/P.R.U.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.10.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols Contd. — P.R.U. of Aalsund - Bergen - Haguesund - Stavanger has taken off. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1232/29).

"Mosquito" A/C. — Are now operating from Wick and may be seen between that station and Norway and anywhere in the Orkneys and Shetlands Command. (2) Description is as follows. (C. in C. H.F., 1330A/29 to Home Fleet).

Bombing Operations. — On day 28/10 there were no operations owing to weather. On night 28/29 thirteen A/C bombed the docks at Cherbourg. Results not observed. (H.Q.B.C., 1800/29).

Mining.

Bristol Channel. — My 1039A/28. Swansea Bay Ports and Llanelly are open to all incoming traffic and ships may be sailed to Westward without restrictions. Cardiff Penarth Newport and Barry are open until 1800 today Wednesday. Avonmouth is open for sailings to Westward only and incoming traffic until 1800 today Wednesday. All ports East of Avonmouth, Watchet and River Parrett Ports remain closed. Shipping for ports East of Port Talbot may be routed to Barry Roads provided arrival is made between 1100 and 1800 daily. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1044A/29).

S.N. 83 A. SHEFFIELD. — R.A.(M) 1653A/28. SHEFFIELD is to sail from Scapa as necessary to R/V with R.A.(M) at 0900A/31 and is to provide cover for minelayers during operations S.N.83 A.
(ii) R.A.(M) is requested to detach SHEFFIELD to Scapa when no longer required.
(C. in C. H.F., 1112A/29 to SHEFFIELD.)

A Line of mines has been laid by Soviet submarine in Mageroy Sund between 70° 57' N., 25° 57' E., and 70° 55.4' N., 25° 50' E.
TRIDENT has been informed. Admiralty pass to R.A. (S). (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1509C/29).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Sheringham Buoy. — Light extinguished. (VIVIEN, 2115A/29) (C. in C. Nore, 2317A/29).

Casualties & Defects.

WINCHESTER. — Have developed heavy cloud in boiler feeding system apparently due to leaky condensor. Require dockyard assistance. Am proceeding Humber. E.T.A. 0600 Humber Light Vessel. (WINCHESTER, 0145A/29)

WHITE BEAR. — Has bad leak in engine room. Am returning to Scapa Flow. Submarines proceeding independently. -(WHITE BEAR, 0431A/29). Expect WHITE BEAR 0900A/29. (WHITE BEAR, 0620A/29 to F.O.C.O.S.)

FLOTTA. — Have grounded. (FLOTTA, 0522/29) Position Rattray. (FLOTTA, 0543/29). Tug ATTENTIF escorted by H.M.T. WILLIAM BRADY sailed to Rattray to assist ship ashore. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0827/29). ATTENTIF returned to Peterhead. Reported losing pressure rapidly. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0901/29). FLOTTA escorting S.S. ST. MAGNUS stranded at 0522/29 one mile north of Rattray. Crew being landed by Breeches Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1125/29).

BRABO — Deperture tug LADY BRASSEY to assist S.S. BRABO and to tow her to Southend. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1118A/29).

AURANIA. — Admiralty's 2148A/26. Salvage Company are lightening AURANIA to draught of 33 feet forward preparatory to docking in floating dock at Greenock, where patch will be fitted to enable ship to proceed to another port for permanent repairs. (S.O.W.P., 1150A/29).

CAMELIA. — Position 057° 29' N., 020° 22' W. R.D.F. out of action. (CAMELIA, 1410A/29).

/CELANDINE....

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

CELANDINE. Damaged in collision. Returning to Harbour. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1759A/29).

SPES. Steering gear broken down, requires immediate assistance, position 8 Hull buoy. Standing by. (SHEARWATER, 2320A/29).

Loaded lighter sunk. N.O.I.C. Lochalsh reports:- One loaded lighter has sunk. R.A.(M) requires salvage if possible. Local assistance has been called for. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2336A/29).

Shipping & Convoys.

W.N.98. W.N.98 has heaved to estimated position 58° 45' N., 3° 33' W.
(QUADRILLE, 0130A/29).
Ships did not join owing to weather.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 1120A/29 to N.C.S.O. Oban)
Eight ships of W.N. 98 in company with SWORD DANCE Passed 33 buoy 1700 eight knots. Four ships considerable distance ahead.
QUADRILLE and remainder astern.
(GLEANER, 1705A/29.)

FFN.39. Postponed 24 hours owing to continuing northerly gales. (C. in C. Nore, 0944A/29).

F.N.38.
F.N.37.
TARON. Van of Convoy Pilot was off Flamborough at 0730/29, speed of advance 2 knots. WALLACE then had 6 ships in sight. MENDIP with 6 ships was at 62D Buoy at 0830. Speed 2 knots. Other ships are probably between those two positions. (C. in C. Nore, 0951A/29).
F.N.38. Six ships between 18.B and 18.D Buoys and S.Ss. GLIN TILLY and LJDQ LIBRA from F.N.37. These include all ships bound north of Tyne except ORANGE BOWDER who was in touch last night and may be ahead. Convoy widely scattered and unable to reform until the weather moderates. Am allowing ships to proceed independently at their best speed. WALLACE will escort special tanker TARON to Tyne and then collect northbound ships. Do not intend to leave TARON to muster rest of convoy. Suggest Tyne portion

/Should.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

F.N.38.
F.N.37.
TARON.
- Contd.

should not sail unless conditions improve and that MENDIP will not be required after Tyne for convoy of five ships. TARON's position 18.B Buoy 1200 making 4 knots.
(WALLACE, 1325A/29).
Your 1325A/29. MENDIP is to continue with convoy to Methil. No ships will join from Tyne Area Port. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1834/29 to WALLACE)

NOTTINGHAM.

My 1614A/28 and 1714A/28. Request you will sail S.S. NOTTINGHAM accordingly. Master has been instructed to report to you 2/11 NOTTINGHAM should be instructed on completion of trials to anchor at Moville for the night and proceed a.m./4 to comply with Admiralty's 0001/1/5/41.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1004A/29 to N.C.S.O. Clyde)

F.S.34.
F.N.39.

My 1201/20/10. F.S.34 cancelled owing to lack of escorts. F.N. 39 postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (C. in C. Nore, 1041/29).

O.N.U.29
O.N.U.30.

My 1640A/24 and my 1550A/28. E.T.A's do not allow for zig-zagging.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 1102A/29).

F.S.33

Is cancelled due to bad weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1159/29).

Cancel my 1011/29. Convoy returned to Methil.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1226/29).

Stationing of Nore Escorts.

My 2358A/23/9. Para 5. When owing to conditions of light, weather and so forth it appears probable that E-boat attack may develop from seaward, the S.Os. of Nore destroyers may, in the case of a large convoy, and when navigational considerations allow, station the third destroyer as an additional close escort to seaward or zig-zagging broadly in position "S" . On very dark nights however. It is undesirable that more than one destroyer should range freely on the seaward flank.
(C. in C. Nore, 1506A/29).

/H.G.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

H.G.75. Your 1340A/29. E.T.A. position G 1200Z/30 approach course 050° speed of convoy 8 knots. 2 F.W. shadowing daily. (ROCHESTER, 1600Z/29). Proceed at best speed to Milford Haven. On arrival you are to embark up to 144 Snowflake rockets and sail as soon as possible to meet H.G.75. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven is to ensure that rockets are embarked without delay. (C. in C. W.A., 1644A/29 to ABERDEEN).

F.S.32. No ships sailed from Humber owing to weather. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1632/29).
Your 1523/29. F.S.32 is ahead of time owing to strong following wind and heavy stern sea. It is impossible for ships to steer at less than 7 knots and speed made good is in excess of this. E.T.A. Sule Skerry at dawn. If weather moderates speed will be reduced. Only 4 ships in convoy. Propose taking Convoy into Harwich if passage through Thames is undesirable. (VIVIEN, 1658A/29)
Your 1658A/29. Continue to Southend. Sweepers will sweep ahead of you on meeting. Do not over run them. Report your E.T.A. B.2. Buoy on passing Aldeburgh. (C. in C. Nore, 2139A/29 to VIVIEN).

O.S.9. After escorting CORNISH CITY to the Azores searched for convoy O.S.9 unsuccessfully 3 days on presumed route. Request P.C.S. (SAN FABIAN, 1900A/29)

E.C.91 At 62 D Buoy. 6 Merchant ships. Wind North force 9 heavy sea. Expect to be off Scarborough at dawn. (VALOROUS, 2031A/29)

F.N.39 A. WORCESTER and HAMBLEDON are to remain at Humber until further orders. They will be required to form escort for an additional convoy sailing from Humber to Methil as arranged by F.O.I.C. Humber. Convoy is to be known as F.N.39 A. (C. in C. Nore, 2324A/29).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MALAYA Collision. HOEGH HOOD. CLAN MACDONALD.

F.O.C.N.A's 1230A/28. On entering Harbour about 1400/27 MALAYA collided with HOEGH HOOD damaging her and parting after moorings. HOEGH HOOD went ahead and collided with bows of M.V. CLAN MACDONALD. Damage as follows.
(C.S. Gib., 0840A/29 to Admty.)

ALOUETTE.

Your 1153A/27 (N.T. in W.D.) Have not yet intercepted this ship and am leaving patrol off Faro unless otherwise ordered. My type 123 out of action. Weather.
(ALOUETTE, 1115A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Transport of Aircraft to U.K.

V.A.C.N.A's 1004A/20. Will ATHENE call at Gibraltar, or could ship such as CLAN FERGUSON which is believed to be carrying cargo for U.K. be used on arrival here, or ship already here if not required to proceed elsewhere ?
(200 Group 1315/29 to Air Min.)

EMPIRE GUILLEMOT.

Has not arrived. Air search failed to locate.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1318A/29 to Admty.)
British, 5720 tons, sailed from Malta for Gibraltar at 1000/22. Italians claim to have sunk a vessel west of Galita Island by torpedo from an aircraft about the time EMPIRE GUILLEMOT should have been in that position.
(D.O.R., 30/10.)

H.G.75 LEGION HESPERUS.

When ELECTRA and (? EXPRESS) have rejoined: (i) LEGION is to return at sweeping speed to Gibraltar through 35.00 N. 10.00 W. LEGION to report her P.C. and S. when 150 miles clear of Force G.
(ii) HESPERUS to refuel at Ponta Delgada then proceed to U.K. through 45.00 N. 22.30 W. thence as directed by C. in C. W.A.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1325A/29 to S.O. Force G.)

DUNCAN.

Request permission and arrangement may be made for DUNCAN to fuel at Ponta Delgada (?) Quantity required about 350 tons. DUNCAN E.T.A. about 1830/G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1448A/29 to N.A. Lisbon.)

/KENNET ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. -Contd.

KENNET
JAY
MYRLAND.

Your 1346/28 para (V).
(N.T. in W.D.) KENNET, JAY and MYRLAND have not sailed. They are expected to leave U.K. 30/10. (D.O.D.(F) 1622A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Air Searches.

202 Sqdn. One Catalina Escort O.S.G.9. Dawn to dusk. Area covered 13.50 W to 12.30 W. 209 Sqn., one Catalina contact and report ARIGUANI in 37.54 N. 18.35 W. 0700 to 2300. 807 Squadron, one Fulmar contact and report fishing boat to East. Area Gibraltar to 02.00 W 1100 to 1400. 816 Squadron, 2 Swordfish 60 miles East. Contact and report DOGFISH and M/V EMPIRE GUILLEMOT 1800 to 2100. (200 Group. 1815/29 to Air Min.).

LE VIOLEN.

Arrived Pasajes from Bayonne 27/10 with 200 tons. wood pulp, left for Bayonne same date in Ballast. (V.Consul San Sebastian 2015/29 to Proximo).

French Shipping.

Passing Gib. eastbound 1345/29.(D.O.R.31/10).

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer".

My 0832/26. Further report from same source states that convoy left Fort Dauphin 26/10 and maximum speed of S.S. BANGKOK is 7 knots.
(S.O.I.Capetown 0952B/29 to F.O.I.C.Simonstown).

PHOEBE.

Your 1003/29(N.T.in W.R.). Sail PHOEBE to Freetown or Lagos for Fuel. (C.in C.S.A. 1145N/29 to N.O.I.C.Simonstown).

FARNDALE
CEDARWALL
HEYTHROP.

FARNDALE taken in hand for quick docking 27/10. CEDARWALL oil retaining glands of stern tubes and "A" frame were found to be leaking badly and required refit and adjustment. Date of completion a.m.2/11. Date ready for sea p.m./2 when she will proceed to Mombasa. (ii) Intend HEYTHROP to proceed independently as in N.O.I.C. Simonstown's 0903Z/24 para.(iv).
(N.O.I.C.Durban 1435Z/29 to Admty. etc.).

/West.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

West Africa. Intelligence of reinforcements at Dakar, and requesting confirmation. (G.O.C. in C. W.Africa, 1640/29 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

CLAN FERGUSON
SYDNEY STAR. Your 1210/28. Subject to merchant ships remaining at Malta being sufficient to meet requirements of C.in C. Med. as in para 8 of his 1210/18, CLAN FERGUSON and SYDNEY STAR should be sailed for Gibraltar when conditions are suitable. Loading of CLAN FERGUSON may continue. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0012A/29 to V.A.Malta.).

Destroyers dispositions, reinforcements. (A) Despatch of PRINCE OF WALES to Eastern Fleet necessitates the provision of a minimum of four TSDS Fleet destroyers to join her so that she may be capable of operating immediately should war break out in the Far East.
(B) Decided that two must be provided from the Home Fleet and two from Mediterranean Fleet.
(C) ELECTRA and EXPRESS are accompanying PRINCE OF WALES from Home.
(D) C.in C. Med. is, therefore, requested to send two T.S.D.S. Fleet destroyers to join PRINCE OF WALES at Trincomalee by 1/12. One of these could be KELVIN due to complete refit at Bombay on 21/11.
(E) Statement of your further reinforcement is as follows:- NESTOR - Under repair. Completes end November. NORMAN - Now working up. DULVERTON and SOUTHWOLD.- Leaving with convoy W.S. 12Z. HURWORTH and BEAUFORT.- Leaving with convoy W.S.14. Five more HUNTS are allocated and are expected to sail, 2 in January and 3 in February. NORSEMAN was allocated to you but has unfortunately been bombed and is badly delayed.
(F) C.in C. S.A. pass to F.O. Force G. on arrival.
(1st Sea Lord. 0155A/29 to C.in C. Med.).

/ W.S.12.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.10.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

W.S.12. Your 2142/23. Position in my 0745/15 confirmed. To clarify position, following troop ships of W.S.12 are proceeding to Middle East. ALMANZORA CITY OF PARIS, EMPIRE PRIDE, MENDOZA, LEOPOLDVILLE SAMARIA, STRATHAIRD, FRANCONIA and EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. Latter ship will continue to India from Suez. STRATHEDEN is also proceeding Suez. (D.of S.T. 0518A/29 to C.in C. M.E. P.S.T.O.Egypt).

CENTURION docking. Your 1620Z/27. 48 hours notice please. (C.in C. Med. 1107B/29 to C.in C.E.I.).

Benghazi bombed. Night 27-29. 4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour ~~works~~ bombs burst on Cathedral Mole and Harbour Works without visible effect. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1138/29).

M.N.B.D.O. Shortage A.A. and G.L. equipments here and necessity for issues only to Units with Operational role unlikely M.N.B.D.O. will be equipped for several months 50 per cent personnel not handled weapons for twelve months consequent loss of efficiency. Proposals. (Overt 1230/29 to Adty).

French shipping. Departure 28th ST.BRIEC, Sete, HERMIA clears for sea. (BARCELONA 1251/29 to D.of S.T.).

TRIUMPH. Intelligence Vatika Bay Area. Considerable Caique traffic reported from Grinisha to Neapolis and Kithera Channel with Motor boats for Motor Caiques armed with machine guns escorting. E boats have been reported occasionally. Regular air patrols reported to be carried out at 0800 daily by captured Sunderland and Dornier Seaplane. Considerable other air activity has been seen. Kithera Channel and Elaphonisos Island and Scutari are said to have small garrison or troop concentration. (Capt. S.1. 1303B/29 to TRIUMPH).

GEORGIC salved. GEORGIC, bombed and sunk 14/7/41, is now reported afloat and safely anchored. (D.O.R. 29/10).

/Supply.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

Supply bases. In anticipation of necessity for provision of port organization for army supply bases in near future, the provision of staff required has been examined and it is necessary to ask for the following officers to be sent from U.K. to man 2 supply ports.(details).
(C.in C. Med. 1355B/29 to Adty.).

Russian ships from Black Sea. My 1111/21. Extract from 1259/27 from Adm.Miles to Adty. (begins). C.N.S. informs me negotiations with Turkish Gov., interrupted by evacuation now proceeding again. Turks have not turned down proposal but Russians do not require Adm.Kelly's assistance yet but may want it later on.(Ends.).
(D.N.I. 1504A/29 to C.in C.Med.).

CENTURION. C.in C. East Indies. 1620Z/27. Suggest CENTURION be sent to Port Sudan so that she may be readily available if required for Mediterranean operations.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1509A/29 to C.in C. E.I., C.in C. Med.). Cancelled (A.C.N.S.(F) 0033A/30).

Air R/C. C.O.I.S.Alexandria 1220B/29. (N.T.in W.D.) received too late for daylight R/C today. If required and A.S.V. Wellington can be sent tonight, proposed track 033° 20' N 021° 00' E thence 035° 50' N (?20°) 00' E thence back to Malta. (V.A. Malta. 1646A/29 to C.in C. Med.).

M.T.B's. Your 1329/27 approx. number of M.T.B's being shipped monthly are: (a) from U.K. Nov. 3, Dec.7, Jan.1, Feb.3, March 2, June 2. (b) From Canada, Dec. 4, Feb.4, April 4. (c) From U.S.A. 70-foot boats Nov.4, Dec.6, 77-foot boats: Dec.2, Jan.4, Feb.4. Remaining ten dependent on supply of torpedo tubes.
(2) From the above two boats from U.K. and ten 77-foot boats will be reserve boats without crews.
(3) All boats will be shipped on cradles.
(D.D.O.D.(C) 1809A/29 to R.A.(D) Med.).

/TRUANT.....

MOST SECRET.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

TRUANT TRUSTY.	TRUANT is to leave the Adriatic and proceed to Alexandria passing through position 040° 00' 019° 00' at approx. 1600B/31, 036° 10' 019° 52', and 032° 36' (?028°) 20' at approx. 1700B/5 to arrive in Sanctuary 0500B/6. TRUSTY (?leave) area (?P) p.m./3 and proceed through 037° 58' 019° 26' and 035° 50' 015° 12' thence to Malta as ordered by S.10. Full rest period will be spent in Malta. (S.I. 1821B/29 to TRUANT TRUSTY).
Air Operations.	Day 29/10. 1 aircraft bombed factory Cantanzaro Marino scoring direct hits buildings sidings pumping station starting large fire apparently oil, target completely obscured by smoke from bombs. Bombs on station and along railway line. Night 28/29. 7 naval aircraft attacked Comiso aerodrome, time over target 1950 to 2205 hours, hits observed hangars and officers' mess causing fires visible 20 miles away, 1 aircraft missing, opposition intense and accurate. 6 Wellingtons nuisance raids Tripoli attack from 1846 to 0335 hours. Bombs on town, in native quarters, Custom House, Military stores, Melleho aerodrome. (H.Q.R.A.F.Malta, 1915/29).
ELISABETH HENDRIK FISSER. (German).	Arrival. Leaves tomorrow Sagunto. (Cortagena 2000/29 to D.of S.T.).
T.B.R. Squadrons.	Establishment of 3 supernumerary Squadrons of T.B.R. aircraft in Egypt envisaged as soon as resources permit but probably not before 1943. Purpose of supernumeraries is to enable Carrier Squadrons to rest and carry out refresher training; to provide one or more Carriers with a full force of T.B.Rs. for special operations as required. Request report whether torpedo facilities provided or in hand, (list) will be adequate when the three T.B.R. supernumeraries arrive or whether more extensive facilities will then be required at Dekheila. (Head of Air Branch. 2218A/29 to C.in C. Med, R.A.A.Med.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CLAN FORBES. Your 1106/27. CLAN FORBES should complete to full capacity topping up at Colombo.
(C. in C.E.I., 0426Z/29, to S.T.O. Calcutta.)

OLIVIA. N.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1632Z/21.(Distress signal). Have you any further news of OLIVIA?
(A.C.N.S(F) 1106A/29 to C. in C.E.Indies.)

Port T. Minefields. Admty. 2219/23/8. C.O. Mine Carrier ATREUS reports constants type D are (? apparently) in guard loop at S.E., entrance at Addu Atoll (3 divisions either side.) I am advised minefields will be effective and intend to continue laying.
(C. in C.E.I., 1246Z/29 to Admty.)
Your 1106A/29/10. CORNWALL was ordered to search in vicinity of 0° 35' N., 54° 43' E., (2) Nothing seen, but OLIVIA was later boarded by CORNWALL. (3) OLIVIA reported having seen two white lights which he thought to be rockets. (4) Do not consider rockets likely.
(C. in C.E.I., 1450Z/29 to Admty.)

Tajura. Re rebellion against Vichy French Govt., in Jibuti. (G.O.C. in C., East Africa, 1710/29, 2225/30 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.

Monster Convoy. Your 1159/23. AQUITANIA should be sailed for Colombo as soon as ready. C. in C.E.I., is requested to arrange fuel and water on arrival.
(D. of S.T. 1834A/29 to P.S.T.O. India.)
It appears that the latest date at which semi-monster convoy can meet off Durban to avoid being at Suez during moonlit period is 16/11.
In view of your 1438/24, request confirmation that this date can be maintained.
(D.O.D.(F) 1835A/29 to C. in C.E.I.)

War Diary. 29.10.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

QUITO. (German.) Arrived Shanghai 27/10. QUITO (563) renamed TENCHITSU MARU flying Japanese Mercantile Flag with (?code) flag at main mast. European Officers and crew.
(C.D.I.S., Singapore, 0211Z/29, to Admty.)

INDIANA (French.) Arrival Oct. 29.
(Saigon, 1032Z/29 to M. of W.T.)

Sarawak Oilfields. Your 0901Z/15, Admty. 1936A/1 and subsequent signals including your 0511Z/28.
2. Possibility of absence of warning set out in latter signal has been taken into account by O.D.C. in reaching following conclusion:-
(a) Present production from Seria oil fuel should be allowed to continue.
(b) Proposals in para. 11 of your 0901Z/15 approved.
(c) Arrangements including preparatory work to implement Scheme A (Admty., 1936A/1.)should be made accordingly.
(V.C.N.S., 2036A/29 to C. in C. China,)
Amended 1846A/30.)

French Shipping. Departure LE CONTE DE LISLE fr. Haiphong
D'ARTAGNAN fr. Manila.
(N.C.S.O. Shanghai, 2358Z/29, to D. of S.T.)

America & West Indies.

BRITISH JUSTICE. My 1643/Q/27. Ship arrived, will load 30/10 delayed by (? flooding). GARD arrived some (?same) day.
(N.C.S.O., Port of Spain, 0005Q/29 to Admty.)

Re-arming of RANPURA. Your 1545A/28. Before a reply can be given an approximate date of arrival is required.
(B.A.R.M., 1012R/29 to Admty.)

Sweepers and A/S Vessels. Reply to Admty., 1735A/10/10. Suggestion that new types conform to those in production for U.S. Navy.
(B.A.D., 1059R/29 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

/Task Unit.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

Task Unit 4.1.13. — Task Unit No. 4.1.13. can not now arrive at Iceland in time to fuel and then escort O.N.31 in accordance with my 1529Z/1/10. Request 4.1.13. may if possible be assigned to O.N.32. (C.C.N.F., 1241/29 to S.O.P.A., Iceland.)

Tugs. — Information just received Tugs S. BARWICK and JAMES HUGHES arrived Port Saunders 050° 38' N., 057° 15' W., 24 and sailed 0900Z/28 for Sydney N.S.
(C.C.N.F., 1521Z/29, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, etc.)
See also 1541/29.

O.N.28. — Disperse following ships capable of twelve knots or over at dusk/29 BRANT COUNTY, BEAVER HILL, BAIANOX, PANDORIAN, TORTUGERO, CHRISTALES, EMPIRO FAITH, PORT NICHOLSON, POLAR TANK, LAURITIS SVENSON DELANE and TIBIA. Direct ships pass north of 48.00 N., 40.00 W. Convoy probably reported by submarines at 0852, 0940, and 1032 all G.C.T. 29/10.
(Opnav, 1501/29, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.6.)

Troop Transport. — Movement control estimate following requirements and request December sailing be arranged if possible early in month.

Month.	Army.	RCAF.	Total.
December	6,500	3,500	10,000.
January.	4,100	3,500	7,600.
February	3,800	3,500	7,300.
March.	4,000	3,500	7,500.

(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1541Z/29 to D. of S.T.)

PETUNIA. — Your 1301A/29. (Tugs for PETUNIA, N.T. in W.D.) We are endeavouring to locate tug by G.B.M.S.
(N.S.H.Q, Ottawa 1541Z/29 to Admty.)
Admty. 1501A/29. See my 1321Z/29 (being passed to B.A.D. Washington.)(C.C.N.F., 1657Z/29 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, etc.) In view of C.C.N.F.'s 1321Z/29. Request PETUNIA may now be ordered to return to U.K.
(C. in C.W.A., 2144A/29 to Admty.)

NIAGARA. — Your 1445Z/17, confirmation requested that NIAGARA is in hand at Halifax.
(D. of D., 1548A/29 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
Confirmed (1454Z/31.)

/T.L.C.130.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.10.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

T.L.C.130. U.S.S.MILWAUKEE sighted T.L.C. 130 derelict in 14° 00' N., 26° 26' W., at 1930Z/26. (B.A.D., 1555R/29 to Admty.)

HEROPE (French.) Departure 29th, Puerto Mexico 31st. (Tampico 1602/29 to M. of W.T.)

? C.T.5 (C.T.5.) your 1214Z/29 concur forces concerned will be informed. (Opnav 1651/29 to Admty.)

O.N.29. O.N.29 alter course forthwith to 270. Further orders follow. U-boats sighted 055° 22' N., 023° 25' W., at 1130Z/29. (U.S.C.N.O., 1659/29, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.16.)

OMAHA SOMERS. On 29/10 OMAHA, SOMERS, departed on patrol from Recife to position 15° N., 26° W. Arrive 3/11. Return Recife 5th. Depart Recife 9th. Arrive Trinidad 15/11. (Opnav, 1701/29, to Admty.) W.D. Note:- Subsequently amended, see 1749/30.

Shipping Bermuda. Admty., 1823/8/8. Only British Ships of 15 knots and over should be routed to Bermuda until further orders. My 0929/6/10, not to Admiralty, is cancelled. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1749Q/29 to S.O.I., Jamaica, etc.)

O.N.34. Your recommended route, concur, forces concerned will be notified. (Opnav, 1955/29 to Admty.)

U.S.Pacific Fleet Liaison. Your 1813/17. Concur in your recommendations. (Hd. of M. Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 2152A/29 to B.A.D.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0025 — Following repeated by Freetown W/T for information. M.L. 266 reports U-boat in approx. 006° 12' N.,013° 54' W., at 0025. (C. in C. S.A., 0508N/29 to CANTON, SURPRISE, PICT, SPANIARD, TURCOMAN).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1356A/29, 1405A/29).

1023
1237. — From D/F it appears that convoy O.N.28 is still being shadowed. D/F bearings at 1023/30 G.M.T. and 1237/30 G.M.T. in particular, indicate this. (D.D.I.C., 1859Z/29 to Opnav).

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C — Am over enemy submarine in 58.22 N., 23.25 W. periscope only sighted. (A/C F. 1225/29 to 19 Group) Have attacked Enemy Submarine with depth charges. No hits. (A/C F. T.O.R. 1325/29 to 19 Group) Wellington A/C, Iceland (C) attacked at 1317/29. (D.S. 786, 30/10). Am proceeding to ALISMA (?) through 058° 22' N., 023° 25' W., to endeavour to contact U-boat sighted by aircraft at 1225/29. Weather. (KINGCUP, 1515/29 to C. in C. W.A.)

By A/C 1258. — Am over enemy S/M in 59.30 N., 23.50 W. S/M was on the surface and observed to submerge, when first sighted was on course 280°, 10 knots. (A/C T., 1200/29 to 15 Group) Wellington A/C T (Iceland (C)) attacked this U-boat at 1258. No details. (D.S., 786, 30/10).

By MALINES. — A/S contact position 021° 35' N., 023° 05' W., Bubbles and light oil observed after attack. Proceeding destination owing to fuel situation. (MALINES, 1340A/29 to Admty F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A.)

/By.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.10.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. - Contd.

By U.S. destroyer 27/10.

At 1210Z/27 (?Destroyer escort) 3.5 made Sonic contact apparently S/M 015° 45' N., 030° 00' W. dropped 3 depth charges without known result and lost contact after 2nd detonation. One hour search by plane and destroyer negative. (U.S. C.N.O. 1708/29 to Admty etc-).

By MORDEN 28/10.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1845Z/28 (repeating MORDEN's 1435Z/28) Submarine was not (?sighted) on surface. 4 attacks made, results unknown. MORDEN now proceeding on escort duty. (C.C.N.F., 1735Z/29 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Redistribution of A.M.Cs. A.M.1232A/30 gives details of a redistribution of A.M.Cs.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather caused operations last night to be reduced. 14 Wellingtons of Bomber Command attacked Brest.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today on account of bad weather.

Enemy Air Operations.

Spitzbergen It is reported from Russian sources that one Junkers 52 arrived at Spitzbergen A.M. today and that 8 Junkers 88 left Petsamo for Spitzbergen at 1210C today.

Myggenaes Lighthouse was bombed and slightly damaged about noon today.

Great Yarmouth was bombed at 1900A today. Very slight naval damage was caused.

MOST SECRET.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

S.N.83 A. The Flag of R.A.M. was transferred to MENESTHEUS this morning. R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS with PORT QUEBEC, WELSHMAN and 3 destroyers sailed from Lochalsh this morning to lay mines N.W. of the Faeroes covered by SHEFFIELD from Scapa.

North Atlantic.

Ponta Delgada. There is a shortage of fuel at Ponta Delgada, where convoy escorts and minor war vessels on passage to or from Gibraltar put in for fuel.

ERIN bombed. A/S Trawler ERIN on patrol off Cape Trafalgar was attacked by a F.W. aircraft at 0245 today. ERIN engaged and probably damaged the enemy, and was herself undamaged but had one man slightly wounded.

South Atlantic.

The loss of R.F.A. DARKDALE (22/10) at St. Helena raises the problem of an intermediate fuelling port for ships of limited endurance between Freetown and the Cape. As first action, BULLMOUTH is to be sent from Freetown to Pointe Noire. There is no Admiralty oil at Walvis Bay.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya & Western Desert.

C. in C. Med., 1956B/30 gives details of bombardments carried out recently by cruisers and destroyers.

Tobruk supply is temporarily suspended during the moon period except for schooners.

18 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night for 5 hours.

Crete.

12 Wellingtons last night attacked shipping in Heraklion and Suda Bay. A freight ship was hit in Suda Bay and a second was straddled.

U-Boat Campaign.

U.S.S. SALINAS torpedoed.

U.S.S. SALINAS (Naval Fuel ship) in O.N.28 was hit by two torpedoes at 07322 today in 46° 51' N., 38° 7' W., and is proceeding towards St. Johns.

KUJAWIAK and ATHERSTONE were ordered at 1633 to proceed to attack a U-boat in 48° 20' N., 9° 20' W., which had been hit and damaged by aircraft.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Raiding Craft. Attention of C.Os is called to the necessity of seeing that their raiding craft are kept efficient and ready for operational service. Flotilla Officers and Flotilla Engineer Officers are to give personal attention to the condition of their craft. My standing orders for operational R.boats dated 28/10/41 (now being issued) are to be carefully complied with. (V.A. C.T.C. 1042/30 to PRINCESS ASTRID, etc.)

A.M.Cs. A.M.1655A/15. The following re-distribution of A.M.Cs has been decided:
CATHAY to be returned to trade vice WOLFE
CALIFORNIA allocated to South Atlantic vice CATHAY
AUSONIA allocated to America and West Indies Station. WORCESTERSHIRE and ALAUNIA allocated to East Indies Stn. and MANOORA to Australia on the arrival of these ships on their station.
MONTCLARE allocated to Australian Station.
ASCANIA allocated to New Zealand Station.
WOLFE to be converted as Submarine Depot Ship.
AURANIA to be converted as Destroyer Depot Ship.
(D.O.D. F. 1232A/30.)

Faroes. Withdrawal of one A/S Trawler. N.O.I/C Aberdeen 1125/29 and my 1106A/2. Remaining ships of fourth A/S M/S trawler group are operating with S.O. 4th Minesweeping Flotilla. In order to continue regular escort of Aberdeen Lerwick service I intend to withdraw A/S trawler from Faroes. This will leave 1 A/S trawler in Faroes which is considered sufficient in existing conditions and it will be possible to replace the vessel withdrawn at short notice should the necessity arise.
(A.C.O.S. 1546A/30.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Vestfiord S/M Patrol (K.22.) My 16290/28. Soviet K.22 sails Polyarno P.M./30 for patrol Vestfiord routed as follows, to patrol in following area.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 12490/30.)

Inter-ship Radio Communication. Large number of copies of 'System of radio communication between ships' in Russian, apparently intended for Russian ships in convoys just received these have been given to Russian Naval Staff. Presume English version has been given to Commodores of Convoys and N.C.S.O.
(Ad. Miles 1514D/30 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

VIMIERA. Leave Sheerness at 1000 today and proceed by Swept Channel and Q.Z.S 287 to Rosyth, at speed consistent safety in present weather. Fighter protection asked for.
(C. in C. Nore 0940A/30 to VIMIERA.)

KINGFISHER. OTWAY. My 1714A/28 and Capt. S.7 1416A/29. On completion of trials KINGFISHER and OTWAY are to anchor at Londonderry for the night. N.O.I.C. Londonderry is requested to sail them in company to Campeltown A.M./4th, KINGFISHER subsequently proceeding to Fairlie. N.O.I.C. Londonderry is also requested to arrange fighter protection for KINGFISHER and OTWAY from Londonderry to Clyde.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1044A/30.)

SEAWOLF. Intend to sail SEAWOLF escorted by CUTTY SARK at 1700/31 passing west of Orkneys to 061° N. 3° 30' W. CUTTY SARK returning to Holy Loch from this position and SEAWOLF proceeding independently through following positions as ordered by S.B.N.O. Murmansk.
(A.C.O.S. 1050/30)

Information for NORMAN. SEALION proceeding unescorted from 061° N. 003° 50' W. at about 1200/29 through following positions and due 73° 40' N. 24° E. at 0001/4. SEAWOLF following same route 3 days later. Submarines informed of your route.
(A.C.O.S. 1220A/30 to NORMAN.)

Information for SEALION. NORMAN due 072° 35' N. 008° 10' E. at 1930A/29, destination Seidisfjord (Iceland). Ship may have been delayed.
(A.C.O.S. 1225A/30 to SEALION.)

PETUNIA. Proceed to Liverpool at best speed.
(C. in C. W.A. 1438A/30 to PETUNIA.)

A.M.Cs. A.M.1944A/19 and 1401A/25. Destination of CHITRAL, WORCESTERSHIRE, AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, and HIGHLAND PRINCESS on arrival is Clyde. Request you will sail HIGHLAND PRINCESS for Avonmouth in company with MONTCLARE and AUSONIA for their respective final destinations.
(D.O.D. H. 1616A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

TARTAR. Intend to sail TARTAR at 0715/1 so as to be off May Island at 0900/2. Request you will issue further instructions for onward passage. Fighter protection will be asked for during daylight 1st. (C. in C. Nore 1630A/30 to R.A.D.)

/EAGLE ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

EAGLE. My 1024A/29/10. Sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1804A/30.)

RODNEY. A.M.1037/29. On return to U.K. RODNEY will proceed to Scapa where she will remain until RENOWN is worked up, probably about 20/11.
2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to arrange for destroyer escort to R/V with RODNEY north of Ireland for onward passage.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1819A/30.)

QUANTOCK. Leave Rosyth at 1500 tomorrow and proceed by Swept Channels and Q.Z.S.287 to Sheerness. Adjust speed to arrive by 1700, observing speed restrictions in force.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1901/30 to QUANTOCK.)

Operations.

Operation "Table". Operation postponed for further 24 hours.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0808A/30.)

S/M Patrol. P.36. To avoid movements of own shipping proceed forthwith submerged by day to patrol in new area bounded by 049° and 050° N. and by 012° and 014° W. S.B.R. arranged 25 miles either side of line joining 050° N. 015° W. and 049° 30' N. 014° W. forthwith until 2359/31 and in new patrol area forthwith until 2359/2.
(F.O.S. 1257A/30 to P.36.)

M.L.Patrol. My 1256/30. Add 2 Motor Launches on Patrol 9 miles S. of Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1504/30.)

Operation "Pantaloon". Following will report for "Pantaloon" and for passage. 66 Officers, 38 N.C.Os, 127 Airmen. They are to be allocated between ships as follows.
(D.O.D. F. 1724A/30.)

S/m Patrol off Svaholthavet. My 1440C/29. TRIDENT sailed. Admiralty pass to R.A. (S), C. in C. H.F.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1901C/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. P.R.U. of Kristiansand South and Oslo in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1147/30.)

Modified Harrow A/C. Modified Harrow aircraft are flying (at present in Doncaster area). Description. Request that confirmation of notification to pilots and A.A. defences may be forwarded.
(Air Ministry 1200/30.)

A/C camouflage and markings. Following amendments have been made to regulations Request all land and air defences be warned at once. (Air Ministry No T.O.O., Recd. 1900/30)
See Lion Copy.

Bombing Operations. On 29/10 there were no operations owing to unfavourable weather.
On Night 29/30 14 Wellingtons attacked Brest. No smoke screen was in evidence but the Naval Units could not be distinguished. Bursts were registered mostly across and in close proximity to Docks 1 and 2.
(H.Q.B.C. 1520/30.)

Enemy Air Activity.

S.L.90. H.G.75. There is a possibility of attack by F.W. Aircraft tonight.
(C. in C. W.A. 0015A/30 to Escorts.)

A/C over Scapa. Between 0849/30 and 0940 One E/A was plotted to have passed over Flow from West to East. Height uncertain but over 10000 feet. E/A was heard but not seen. Fighters failed to contact. Cloud 10/10ths at 1500-2000 feet. Could not have seen into or photographed Flow.
(A.C.O.S. 1145/30.)

Spitzbergen. Following received from Russian sources graded B.1. One Junkers 52 arrived Spitzbergen a.m./30 and 8 Junkers 88 left Petsamo for Spitzbergen at 12100/30.
(D.D.I.C. 1722A/30.)

Yarmouth bombed. Great Yarmouth bombed 1900A/30. No casualties. Structural damage to canteen and west wall R.N.B. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2046A/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.83 A. Sailed R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS, WILSHMAN, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, OFFA, and ORIBI.
(N.O.I.C. Lochalsh 0930/30.)
Scapa departure SHEFFIELD.
(A.C.O.S. 1233A/30.)

Bristol Channel. All Bristol Channel ports without exception will be open to shipping between 1400 and 2000 today. (P.O.I.C. Cardiff 1014A/30.)

Sweeps off Dover. Sweeping carried out to 0800/30 by Oropesa and S.A. Trawlers in Q.Z.S.238 from C. one buoy and alternative route as in my 1931A/5. Nothing found. (V.A. Dover 1143A/30.)

MANXMAN. Intend to sail MANXMAN from Needles 1000/31 for Port Z.A. Route. E.T.A. 1750/1.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1303A/30.)

Sweep off Faroes. Gale and fog have prevented more than one day sweeping being carried out since my 1235A/25. Progress therefore negligible. Total area now cleared is as follows. Total number of mines (?swept) 18, all (? British). It would appear therefore that mines in S.N.6 have dragged considerably to eastward. At least 50 drifiting mines sighted since recent gale. Am despatching ROSS and LYDD to boiler cleaning and half yearly trials respectively, for which both ships are overdue, in anticipation that PANGBOURNE and SUTTON will have rejoined me in time for recommencement of sweeping.
(S.O. 4th M/S F. 1830A/30.)

Navigational.

Sheringham Light Buoy. Sheringham light and bell buoy, light reported extinguished. (Hydrographer 0035A/30.)

Hearty Knoll
Smiths Knoll
Light Buoys. Commodore R.N.38 reports Hearty Knoll and Smiths Knoll Light buoys extinguished.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1445/30) (Hydrographer 1811A/30.)

Sunk Buoy. Sunk buoy. Light extinguished.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1942A/30) (Hydrographer 2230A/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

CAVEROCK. Ashore between Redcar and Marske. Lifeboats unable to proceed owing to weather. Hope to rescue crew with life saving apparatus.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0043/30.)
My 0043. Vessel ashore off even keel, crew remaining on board. Weather permitting, attempt will be made to refloat at next high water. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0317/30.)

SPES. Departure Tug STALWART to assist SPES.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1017A/30.)
Arrival Tug STALWART from assistance of SPES.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1408A/30.)

KARS. KARS has badly fouled Boom Defence entering in convoy. Nets are wrapped round her.
Endeavouring to cut nets to clear her. Diver may be required if propellors are foul.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1105A/30.)
KARS is now clear of Boom and has been towed to anchorage in harbour. Has holed herself in bows on Sgeir and Araig and has nets foul of propellor.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1545A/30.)

EAGLESCLIFF HALL. Departure tug ST. MELLONS to assist EAGLESCLIFF HALL off Cley.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1120A/30.)
Immingham departure Tug SABINE at 1155 to assist EAGLESCLIFFE HALL in distress off Cley near Blakeney, Norfolk.
(F.O. Humber 1204A/30.)
Tug SABINE arrived off Cley 1800.
Reports second tug not required. Weather permitting will commence tow of EAGLESCLIFF HALL at daylight tomorrow.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2310A/30.)

ST.MELLONS. Following received from Tug ST. MELLONS begins: Have fire bar trouble one furnace out of action. Returning to roads. Weather too bad to carry out orders without full power. 1233A/30.
Ends. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1335A/30.)

EILEEN EMMA. Cancel my 1056A. EILEEN EMMA delayed by defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1645A/30.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Have lost touch with S.S. SPES presume she has proceeded carrying out search in vicinity eight C. buoy. Am having great trouble in steering. (SHEARWATER 0110/30.)

F.N.39. Postponed another 24 hours. (C. in C. Nore 0611A/30.)

W.S.12 Z. C.T.6. Following is revised position in regard to convoy W.S.12.Z.
2. In addition following ships will be included in C.T.6 sailing at same time as W.S.12 Z.
3. Embarkation dates will probably be 7/11 to 9/11.
(D. of S.T. 0646A/30.)

GLEN STRATHALLEN. My 1056/29. Sailing postponed by weather. (N.O.I.C. Holyhead 0830A/30.)

O.N.30. S.C.51. C. in C. W.A. 1855A/29. E.T.A. Lough Foyle 1430A, SARDONYX, WATCHMAN in company. My 1712A/29th. Request Rescue Ships which left O.N.30 without orders may be sent to R/V me off Lough Foyle Buoy at 1200A/31 for onward escort to meet S.C.51.
(MALCOLM 0902A/30 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

F.N.40. Medium. Propose to postpone F.N.40 Medium until 1/11.
(C. in C. Nore 0950A/30.)
F.N.40 postponed 24 hours to 1st November.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1041/30.)
Ships for ports between Falmouth and Plymouth including Plymouth are to continue with convoy.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0954/30 to ATHERSTONE.)

Take code word "Paddle Two" as from 1130 today.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1007/30 to JASON, VANITY.)

W.P.59. Ships for "Steward" and "Stencil" (W.P.59) may proceed independently to Swansea Bay and are to sail therefrom in groups at 0930/31 and 1100/31 respectively. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1014A/30.)

/BLAEGG ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

BLAEGG. Your 1230/24. Norwegian Motor Vessel BLAEGG not arrived Methil. (N.C.O. Methil 1026/30 to N.C.S.O. Leith.)

F.N.38. F.S.32. F.N.37. E.C.90. My 1625/29 in continuation, straggler situation at 1000/30. All ships previously reported in Humber and in addition ex F.N.38 Thames to Middlesbro EAST ANGLIAN Ex F.S.32 Methil to London CIRCE II. Blyth to London MISTLEY. Also reported at anchor Bridlington Bay Ex F.N.37 Thames to Middlesbro ISBJORN (Nor.) Thames to Tyne ALEXANDRA (Gr.) Thames to Leith ORANNE POLLA (Du.) Ex E.C.90 Thames to Blyth CORMEAD. Also FLUOR, PENHURST, SIGNALITY, destinations unknown and one unidentified ship. Tug KINGS CROSS with Lighter also in Bridlington. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1115/30.)

H.G.75. Your 1644/29. ABERDEEN proceeded. 144 rockets embarked. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1151A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

C.T.5. "Cargo". A.M. 2318A/24. Convoy C.T.5. Amend route from position Q. as follows. In 53° 35' N. 24° 28' W. convoy C.T.5 meets and changes escorts with convoy "Cargo" at 1100Z/2. Route for CARGO from position J. to K., thence to F. 56° 30' N. 11° W., thence to North Channel. (D.O.D. H. 1330A/30.)

C.T.5. Sailed. Commodore Swabey R.N.R. in DUCHESS OF ATHOLL. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 2356A/30.)

STRATUM. STRATUM finished. (N.O.I.C. Swansea 1340A/30.)

F.N.39. F.N.40. F.N.42. My 0950A/30 and 1650A/28. Propose escorts of convoys as follows. WINCHESTER to relieve GARTH with F.N.42 as soon as WINCHESTER is completed. GARTH on relief by WINCHESTER to proceed to Tyne to await sailing of SUNFISH. Request you will amend programme of escorts as necessary and issue orders to GARTH for escort of SUNFISH to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore. 1446A/30.)

/S.L.90 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

S.L.90 BUCKET. — Reference 596A Z para.2. Evasive alteration is to be made to port. (C. in C. W.A. 1538A/30 to Escorts S.L.90 and VANQUISHER.)

Ocean Convoys. — Escorting arrangements to come into force forthwith. (C. in C. W.A. 1542A/30.) See Lion Copy.

O.G.76. — Joined Clyde Oban and Milford Haven portions at 1730A/29. P.C.S. at 2200, 250°. Oversay 8 miles, 300° 5, altering to 120° 7 knots at 0800/30. BRADFORD in company. (AUDACITY 2205A/29.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

SARASTONE bombed, sunk. BARON NEWLANDS escaped.

SARASTONE was sunk at 2300/29 by bomb from aeroplane just outside river entrance, only Thomas Russell chief engineer believed lost. Survivors brought to Huelva by 2 Spanish trawlers. BARON NEWLANDS who was following was attacked but not hit, has returned to Huelva and has survivors on board. Captain SARASTONE says funnel and masts visible at low tide, certain -therefore you can send to fix position to check if in territorial waters as we believe. BARON NEWLANDS believes she hit aeroplane. (Gibraltar, 0330/30 to Admty.)
My 0330/30. Captain of BARON NEWLANDS awaits your instructions for sailing because if attacked again he is short of life boat accommodation on account of survivors on board. Trying to recover secret book at low tide. (Gibraltar 1500/30 to Admty.)
British ships SARASTONE, BARON NEWLANDS, when leaving for Huelva were attacked at 2300/29 by four-engined bombing aircraft which came from land. A direct hit made on former which sank 1½ miles from shore. Latter was then attacked when still in Channel but opened fire and drove enemy off bombs falling clear. All crew former saved except Chief Engineer and brought back by latter. Three wounded admitted local hospital no serious cases. Embassy making energetic protest to Spanish Govt. on violation of ? territorial waters. (A.N.A. Madrid, 1639/30 to D.N.I., F.O.C.N.A., 2340A/30 to Admty.)
SARASTONE, 2473 tons, from Lisbon and Huelva for Ardrossan, was on her way to join an H.G. convoy. (D.S. 787, 31/10).

DUNCAN.

My 1228A/28. Owing to (?shortage of) fuel at Ponta Delgada only take 200 tons.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1158A/30 to DUNCAN).

ERIN A/C attack.

ERIN on patrol 200° Cape Trafalgar 6 miles was attacked at 0245/30 by Fokke Wulfe aircraft which came up moon and surprised ERIN for first attack dropping two bombs which missed astern. Second, third and fourth runs were made using cannon and machine guns and dropping small bombs. 2. Aircraft was engaged on last three runs and probably damaged. 3. One man slightly wounded. Ship undamaged. (F.O.C.N.A. 1316A/30 to Admty.)

/Force.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

Force H, flagship.	For Adm. Somerville, ref Admty. 1947/29 (N.T. in W.D.) Intend to transfer flag to MALAYA A.M. 1/11. (S.C. Force H., 1422A/30 to Admty.). W,R. Note. D.O.D. (H) please pass to Adm. Somerville.
COMMANDANT DOMINE.	Following received from COMMANDANT DOMINE (begins) - After escorting CORNISH CITY to the Azores searched for convoy O.S.9 unsuccessfully 3 days on presumed route, request P.C. and S. 1900A/29 - (Ends). Give her instructions. (D.T.D. 1633A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)
French Fishing boat.	French motor Fishing boat GLADIATEUR (corrupt group) Croix entered Corunna 29/10 reported Master taken ill. (Gibraltar 1830/30 to Admty.)
JOAO PESSOA (German).	Workmen offered bonus to complete load night 31st. (Bilbao 1847/30 to Admty.)
Escort for RODNEY.	Admty. 1037A/29 para. 5. Propose R/V in position -K. 043° N. 020° W. at 1700A/?4/11. (F.O.C.N.A., 2254A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

South Atlantic.

C.F.3.	ALCANTARA sailed 0300Z/30 to R/V with Convoy C.F.3. at 1200Z/31. (N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth 0816Z/30 to Admty. etc.)
Takoradi boom defences.	Boom vessel BARRYMORE is to be despatched to Takoradi forthwith to expedite laying of A/T boom. As soon as vessel can be spared BARRYMORE is to return to Pointe Noire to complete boom -operations at that port. (B.N.L.O. Freetown 0831N/30 to B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire).
Derelict.	Your 1555R/29. (T.L.C. 130 derelict sighted by U.S.S. MILWAUKEE). Request description of derelict. (C. in C. S.A. 0941N/30 to B.A.D.)

/Atlantic.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Atlantic Shipping Routes.	Instructions in A.M. 0001/1/5/41 Section 4 para. 12 are temporarily suspended. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1057A/30 to S.O.I.'s Capetown, Kingston) See 1100/30.
SHAHRISTAN survivors.	There are 21 Military survivors ex SHAHRISTAN in Ponta Delgada. These may not be embarked in a man of war. Request name of suitable ship if any in S.L. 92 with excess of speed over Convoy and necessary accommodation. (Admty., 1058A/30 to C. in C. S.A.)
Shipping Routes.	Your 1150N/28 and 1302/28, these instructions are being temporarily suspended. They were introduced as a result of experience to facilitate re-routeing of independent ships approaching West African ports. It is appreciated that in view of your 2031N/26 there is not the same necessity for them but it might be desirable to reintroduce them should it not be possible to continue these convoys. Presume you have considered question of tankers and occesional -independents from the west and that it will take about two weeks to reintroduce these instructions. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1100A/30 to C. in C. S.A.)
Flying over Cape Verde.	Governor of Cape Verde Islands interviewed me concerning British aeroplanes flying over some of these islands 23/10. Expressed full confidence in Britain respecting neutrality and requested that British visiting aeroplanes do not fly over any part of these islands. (Consul, St. Vincent, 1450/30 to F.O.)
Fuelling, Pointe Noire.	Loss of DARKDALE at St. Helena raises the problem of an intermediate fuelling port for ships of limited endurance between Freetown and Cape. Propose as first action to send BULLMOUTH now at Freetown to Pointe Noire to be available to fuel MALINES, ANTWERP and BRIGAND and remain there for the present. There is no Admiralty oil at Walvis Bay. Request early reply as BULLMOUTH should sail for this service as soon as possible. (C. in C. S.A. 1601N/30 to Admty.)

/Rafts.....

MOST SECRET.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Rafts found, Pernambuco. At various times between p.m./28 and p.m./29 three rafts have been washed up between Olinda and Cabo respectively north and south of town of Pernambuco.(Evidently American) (Description). No identification marks. All indications seem to shew that rafts had not been afloat for over seven days. (Consul, Pernambuco, 16452/30 to S.O.I. Montevideo).

U/B's St. Antonia Island. Following from British Consul, St. Vincent (begins) (1) Reported anchored Janella Bay Island St. Antonia 27/10 two enemy submarines, not confirmed to date, 1030/30 (ends). (C. in C. S.A. 2008N/30 to Admty.)

S.T.7. Departure 1255/30 with convoy S.T.7. VANSITTART, CYCLAMEN, ASTER, ARMERIA. (S.O.I. Freetown 2025N/30 to Admty. etc.)

Task Force 3. Movements of Group 3.6 (OMAHA, SOMERS). 1. Left Pernambuco 29/10 to arrive in 15° N. 26° W. on 3/11, returning thence to Pernambuco arriving 8/11. 2. Leave Pernambuco 9/11 for Trinidad so as to arrive 15/11. (D.O.D. (F) 2127A/30 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

CENTURION. Cancel Admty. 1509/29. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0033A/30 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med.)

Enemy Units, UTMOST. 1 Tanker, 1 destroyer 034° 32' 071° 10', course and speed 070° 8 knots 0740A/30. Will probably hug coast. (Capt.S.10, 0947A/30 to UTMOST).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Enemy Convoy, TRUSTY.	Small convoy has been sighted and should pass through 037° 58' 019° 50' at 1700B/30. Course 155°, speed 10 knots, probably bound vicinity 032° N. 020° E. (Capt. S.1. 1131B/30 to TRUSTY).
Air Operations.	Night of 29-30/10, 12 Wellington aircraft attacked shipping in Heraklion and Suda Bay off Crete. Clouds obscured the results in Heraklion Bay, but a freight ship was hit in Suda Bay and a second was seen to be straddled by bombs. (D.O.R. 1/11).
SOKOL.	Leave patrol p.m./31 pass through 038° 35' 013° 51' and 038° 16' 012° 08' making passage through Q.B.B. 65 daylight 2/11 to arrive Malta by N.W. channel a.m./3. UTMOST arrives 0630A/3 from south east. (Capt. S.10, 1211A/30 to S/M SOKOL)
Alexandria Raid.	Alexandria air raid 1900 to 2015/29. About 12 enemy. 5 sticks accounted for round very large Perimeter. No damage. Casualties one British Army Officer. High level bombing 12-15,000 feet. Bright moon, light 7 tenths light cloud, 14,000 feet. 2 fighters. No illuminations. No interceptions. (R.A. Alexandria, 1235B/30 to Admty.)
UTMOST.	Leave patrol through as requisite 035° 42' 012° 55' and 035° 42' 014° 10' to arrive Marsamxett 0630A/3. Polish S/M SOKUL arrives A.M. same day by north west Channel. (Capt. S.10, 1310A/30 to UTMOST).
Turkish Defences.	For Adm. Kelly. Your 1248/28. Agree that this is a most delicate matter but it is desirable to have at least a proportion of British ratings as I should ? feel concerned about the safety of ships in comparatively open (?anchorage) of Iskanderun if they had to rely for their protection on loop (?procedure) watched exclusively by Turkish personnel. Would it be practicable to suggest sending a fairly strong party as ostensible instructors and for (?maintenance) with idea of spinning out their time as long as possible? It seems likely that we should know fairly soon which way the cat is going to jump. (C. in C. Med., 1602B/30 to N.A. Angora).

/Tripoli.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Tripoli bombed. 18 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli Marshalling yards, railway buildings, and engine shed 1750 to 2250 hours. Hits railway lines, large explosions and fires Marshalling yards visible 60 miles away. (H.Q. R.A.F, Malta, 1715/30).

M.N.B.D.O. Equipment. Message 1230/29 from Overt. Request all possible may be done to obtain priority for Principal items required to re-equip M.N.B.D.O. If this is not done there will be considerable delay before organisation will be ready to function in its proper role. (C. in C. Med., 1832B/30 to Admty.)

Situation Report 162. My 2034/26. The following targets have been engaged during recent bombardments.
(A) By cruisers, Tobruk Eastern Battery night 20/21. Bardia area petrol dump and headquarters night 23/24, Bardia area gun repair depot and vicinity night 25/26.
(B) By destroyers, Bardia harbour facilities night 21/22, Sollum village area 23/24. No detailed information of results received or likely since targets were all dispersed areas but reports from spotting aircraft are satisfactory.
2. Tobruk supply temporarily suspended during moon period except for Schooners. Two M.T.B's entered Bardia harbour night 26/27 and carried out successful minelaying operation. Request no mention.
3. Alexandria air raid, about 12 aircraft, no damage.
4. Levant A/T Baffle at Tripoli now complete and Baffle at Beirut being relayed.
5. Submarines. THUNDERBOLT sunk two-masted caique at 1904/10 bound for Kasu Strait, in position 035° 31' N. 026° 25' E. (C. in C. Med., 1956B/30 to Admty.)

Long-Range Whitleys. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 193. Ref. C.O.S. No., 187, paras. 1 and 3 should now be cancelled as Air Ministry are sending out immediately to Malta two long-range Whitleys for this purpose. Air Min. X. 198 of 28/10 to H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. refers. (1st S.L. 2227A/30 to C. in C. Med.)

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Enemy Advance Crimea.	N.L.O. Black Sea reports: Operations Crimea front, several mechanised groups broke through and penetrated up to 50 kilometres inland. Situation serious unless these can be rapidly destroyed. T.O.O. 17150/30. (Ends). (C. in C. Med., 2340B/30 to Admiralty.)
DERNA (Italian).	Left Barcelona 30/10 for Genoa. (D.S. 789, 2/11).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

French Somaliland.

Your 0/7/25 of 25/10. Open war with Vichy French in French Somaliland is opposed to policy of H.M.G.
If approached by tribesmen, you should inform them that we are not at war with Vichy France and that they can therefore expect no open assistance from us. Free French should conform to this direction.
(W.O., 0100/30 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa).

Convoy B.A.8.

Departure GLASGOW escorting B.A.8.
(S.O.(I) Bombay, 0151Z/30 to Admty etc).

DEMPO

My 1305/27. DEMPO due Bombay 31 /10. Can this ship be used for one voyage to Suez sailing about 12/11 with 1500 Indian troops before proceeding U.K.?
(P.S.T.O. India, 0452Z/30 to D. of S.T.)

Damage to tug.

Re Tug SIR GUTHRIE RUSSELL hired from Vizagapatam Port Trust in July for handling monster liners at Trincomalee, grounded at Trinco on 11/7 while in naval service. Request approval to accept liability for repairs.
(C. in C. E.I., 0654Z/30 to Admty).

C.M.18 X.

Convoy C.M.18 X sailed 29/10 for Aden. Details. E.T.A. 0300Z/8/11. (S.S.T.O. Durban, 1034Z/30 to S.S.T.O. Aden).

Defence requirements, Persian Gulf.

Your 0736/20 approved. Views are concurred in -generally.
(Head of M., Approved by A.C.N.S. (F) 1601A/30 to C. in C. E.I.)

Port T.

Your 1102/6. Location of Port T should be regarded secret as long as possible. Action on your para 5 will be taken in due course. Meantime if Base Ship has to transmit a Naval General Call Sign should be used.
(Head of M., 2118A/30 to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Request arrangements for docking and repairs to QUEEN MARY at Singapore commencing about 5/12 after completion of U.S.13. Estimated period in dock one month.
Tentative arrangements should be made for docking QUEEN ELIZABETH after U.S.14, about beginning of Feb. 1942. Estimated period in dock three weeks. Ships should be kept at not more than one week's notice during period in hand.
(D. of D., 0139A/30 to A.S., Singapore).

America & West Indies.

Tugs for PETUNIA.

My 1541Z/29. Report states JAMES E. HUGHES and BARWICK are returning and now in close vicinity of Sydney. Further signal will be made on arrival giving reason for return.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0326Z/30 to Admty).
PETUNIA is to return to U.K. as ordered by C. in C. W.A. 2. C.C.N.F. is requested to report whether it appears likely that tugs will be able to make the passage at a later date. (V.C.N.S., 1153A/30 to C. in C. W.A., C.C.N.F.) Reply 1627/1.

O.N.28.

Received following from Comtaskunit 4.1.6. Opnav 1501/29 was received too late to signal the vessels concerned before dark. A submarine was sighted on the surface ahead at dusk 1930 G.C.T. but lost in the darkness. Have not dispersed ships and convoy Commodore concurs. Unless otherwise directed will disperse them at dusk tomorrow 30/10.
(Opnav, 0835/30 to Admty).

/WASAGA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

WASAGA, COWICHAN. — On completion duty with INDOMITABLE on 1/11 return to Bermuda to complete with fuel. Leave Bermuda A.M./2 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0952Q/30 to WASAGA, COWICHAN).

BURNHAM. — My 1518R/18. BURNHAM slightly delayed, hoped she will sail tomorrow 31/10. Report of sailing will be made by ship after trial. (B.A.R.M. 1034R/30 to Admty.)

MONT VISO. (French). — Arrival 30/10. (St. Thomas, 1519/30 to D. of S. T.)

Aircraft Transports. — Following for Adm. Little from 1st S.L. I am informed by C.A.S. that Harris on his return mentioned conversion of American freight train carriers into aircraft transports. Our own aircraft transports cannot deal with larger aircraft than Naval types. Our aircraft carriers would also have difficulty in embarking large aircraft apart from question of such employment being uneconomical. In view of great help to our operations generally if transport of R.A.F. bomber types can be speeded up, request you will endeavour in concert with Supply Council to obtain two of these conversions providing you are satisfied they are suitable for operation under Atlantic sea conditions. (1st S.L. 1729A/30 to B.A.D.)

OMAHA. SOMERS. — Patrol of OMAHA, SOMERS, modified. Change my 1701/29 arrive 15° N. 26° W. from Recife 3/11. Then to point at equator 43° W. Thence arrive Trinidad 11/11. (Opnav., 1749/30 to Admty.)

FRANCOIS L.D. Casablanca, Dakar intelligence. — Casablanca 25/10 B.2. Master of FRANCOIS L.D. at suggestion of Naval Authorities, has received official recognition of his journey without stopping for 70 days, slipping through British blockade, from Indo China to Casablanca with contraband on board. (ii) Algiers 28/10 A.2.

/Owing.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

FRANCOIS L.D. Casablanca, Dakar intelligence. - Contd.	Owing to low ebb of Admiralty fuel at Casablanca 4000 tons fuel oil is being transferred to Casablanca by Navy from its stocks in Algeria. B.2. In August, 10,000 tons was total amount of naval stock then held in Algeria, stocks are now well below this figure. U.S. Authorities have been asked to ascertain if this movement has already begun and whether overland or by sea. (iii) Dakar 29/10 B.2. Boisson states his force "no longer consists of 60 thousand ill equipped troops". (B.A.D. Washington 1841R/30 to Admty.)
YUKON. H.X. 157.	My 1826Z/28 (sailing telegram). Delete reference to U.S. YUKON, vessel will not make passage with H.X. 157. (C.O.A.C., 2015Z/30 to Admty.)

New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.	Your 2300/25 to F.L.C. LE TRIOMPHANT only and 1614M/28 and my 0015Z/27 to N.Z.N.B. Navy Office, Wellington only. Intend to sail 1600M/31 providing distant cover to CAP DES PALMES. Request confirmation that ship should proceed direct to Wellington instead of Auckland. If so, E.T.A. 1300/4. (LE TRIOMPHANT, 0500Z/30 to -N.Z.N.B., N.O. Wellington).

MOST SECRET.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

H.G.75, LEGION, FERRARIS survivors, (sunk 25/10.)

Your 1326A/29. 22.30, 094° 23. My P.C. and S., are 36.50, Am returning at best speed direct owing to condition of wounded. E.T.A., 1600A/31. A.F.O. 2901/41 (Survivors)
(a) LEGION, (b) COSSACK (c) 6, (d) 38 (n) 44. (o) 2, of (d) Maltese, (p) 4, of (c) 7 of (d) including 2 from LEGION.
(q) One of (c), 4 of (d) including one from LEGION.
(LEGION, 0400Z/30, to F.O.C.N.A.)

ARIGUANI (torpedoed 26/10.)

My P.C. and S., are at 1700A/30 037° 22' 014° 40' 095° 7 knots. Water in 3 and 4 holds kept down by salvage pump. Weather report.
(ARIGUANI, 1730A/30, to F.O.C.N.A.)
202 Sqdn., 2 Catalinas escort O.S.9G. Also contact and report ARIGUANI. Dawn to dusk. Area covered 16.30 W., to 11.20 W. ARIGUANI not met.
(200 Group, 1815/30.)

SALINAS.

U.S.S.SALINAS in O.N.28 hit by two torpedoes 46.51 N., 38.07 W., 0732Z/30. DUPONT standing by O.N.28 proceeding with remaining four destroyers. Five additional U.S. destroyers despatched Argentia to assistance O.N.28. CAMPBELL en route Iceland to Argentia and tug CHEROKEE Casco Bay proceeding to assistance. SALINAS proceeding seven knots course 275° for St. Johns.
(Opnav, 1847/30, to Admty.)
SALINAS, oil fuel ship, U.S. Navy, 5375 tons, cargo capacity 11,116 tons, also 720 tons petrol in 2 tanks. Completed 1920, acquired 1921. (C.B. 01815 (U).

Submarines Reported.

1340A/29.

MALINES 1340A/29 might indicate that one or more of the 3 or 4 U Boats which have been sweeping north from vicinity of Veroes (?Verdes) may now be sweeping south. Unless therefore, Adty., have definite information that this group is now west of Madeira suggest both S.L.91 and O.S.9 should be diverted well clear of MALINES contact before dark this evening.
(C. in C.S.A., 0943W/30 to Admty.)

/1058 G.M.T....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.10.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.Contd.

1058 G.M.T. Intercept 1058 G.M.T., bearing W'ly F.A.R. D R D R D R 72 297 periscope 1100 (Valentia Radio, 1057/30, C. in C. Plymouth, 1200/30.)

0935 G.M.T. D/F Bearings at 0935/30 G.M.T., indicate that U-boat is in vicinity of Convoy H.X.156. (D.D.I.C., 1210A/30 to Opnav.)

1054 G.M.T. D/F at 1054/30 G.M.T., indicates that Italian U-boat is in the immediate vicinity of Convoy H.G.75. (D.D.I.C., 1224A/30 to Escorts H.G.75.)

1210C. U-boat reported by Mudyuga shore station on surface steering East at 1210C/30 in 064°50' N., 038° 30' E., close to Unskaya inlet (2 corrupt groups) Request you will send Force to hunt. Admty., pass to 1st. C.S., 1st.M/S Flotilla. (B.B.N.O. Archangel, 1310C/30, to Admty.)

Estimated U-Boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1355A/30, 1356A/30.)(C.N.O., U.S.N. to C. in C.A.F. 2135/30.)

1437 G.M.T. D/F bearings at 1437/30 G.M.T. indicate U/boat in vicinity of Convoy S.C.51. (D.D.I.C. 1951/30 to Opnav.)

27/10. Following from British Consul St. Vincent (begins (1) Reported anchored Janella Bay Island St. Antonia, 27/10, two enemy submarines, not confirmed to date 1030/30 (ends). (C. in C.S.A., 2008N/30 to Admty.)

1023 G.C.T.
1237 G.C.T. O.N.28, Serial 9, D/F bearings at 1023 and 1237 G.C.T. to-day indicate that you still being shadowed. (Opnav, 2125/30, to Comtask Unit 4.1.6.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.10.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.

Am over enemy S/M in 48° 02' 09° 08'.
(A/C Z.1, 1450/30, to 19 Group.)
W.D. Note. D.S.787 gives position as 47.58 N., 09.08 W., and states attack was by Hudson A/C H/53, and that Catalina Z/209 attacked at same time.
Enemy S/M previously reported is still on surface Course 215° speed 15 knots.
(A/C Z, 1505/30, to 19 Group.)
Proceed at best speed to attack damaged U/boat in 48° 20' N., 9° 20' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1633/30, to KUJAWIAK, ATHERSTONE.
D/F Bearing confirms U-boat in approx., same position. Codeword for help message "Obstacle".
(C. in C. Plymouth 2146/30 to KUJAWIAK, ATHERSTONE.

By A/C.

Am over enemy submarine in 46.10 N., 8.35 W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge 270° 8 knots.
(A/C A.1, 1450/30, 1456/30 to 19 Group.)

By A/C.

Am over enemy submarine in 47.59 N., 9.09 W., 1100.
(A/C H.1, 1501/30 to 19 Group.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 1 hit. Am returning to base. Engine trouble.
(A/C ? 23, 1525/30 to 19 Group.)

By U.S. Destroyers.

44.20 N., 40.10 W., 1450Z/30, Task Group 14.3 reports several possible submarine contacts. At 1520 definite metallic contact and propeller noises. Destroyers attacked and one oil slick seen.
(Opnav, 1750/30, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft successfully attacked shipping off Ameland this morning and off Terschelling after dark this evening.

Enemy Air Operations.

Faeroes Fish carrier FALKUR was attacked and damaged at 0915 today off Sando, Faeroes.

WESTMINSTER reported Convoy F.N.39 being attacked at intervals from 1816A to 2152 off Southwold. S.S. NICOLAOS PIANGOS was set on fire, grounded and broke in two, and S.S. BRITISH FORTUNE was sunk at 1930.

Mining.

Varanger -Fiord. Soviet S/Ms have laid mines across the entrance to Kirkeness.

Mining by enemy aircraft in the Bristol Channel was suspected last night.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

A report from Lisbon states that Portuguese schooner NINA has been intercepted by a British ship and escorted to Gibraltar for inspection. She is alleged to have been transporting goods to Occupied France.

Owing to the increased commitments for tanker escort, for which trawlers are unsuitable until fitted with better W/T, F.O.C.N.A. asks for the allocation of an additional corvette group to his command.

Mediterranean.

R.A.N. Destroyers. — The four R.A.N. destroyers have now all been withdrawn from the Mediterranean for refitting. The Admiralty propose that they should join the China Station as they complete.

America & West Indies.

Suspicious Tanker. — British S.S. HARMONY at Boston reports sighting a 3,000 ton tanker stopped in 44.24 N., 49.42 W., on 21/10 with Portuguese colours and "OSANTA PRINCESSA, Portugal" amidships. It is possible this may have been a German supply ship.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

CAMELIA at 1545 today reported that she was chasing and engaging with gunfire two S/Ms. on the surface in 53° 21' N., 26° 24' W. At 1730A she reported that both S/Ms escaped on the surface at high speed.

H.X.156
U.S.S.
REUBEN JAMES
sunk.

Task Unit 4.1.3 escorting H.X.156 was attacked by U-boat at 0540Z today in 51° 59' N., 27° 5' W. U.S. destroyer REUBEN JAMES was torpedoed and sunk.

O.S.10

FREESIA at 2130Z reported that Convoy O.S.10 had been attacked by one or more S/Ms. and one ship sunk. Her position was 50° 52' N., 24° 6' W.

A Hudson of Coastal Command attacked a U-boat at 1217 today, 240 miles S.W. of Ushant and estimates a direct hit on the bows;by depth charge. Two other depth charges exploded within 20 feet of the bows. Large quantities of oil came up.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

DIRKJE for Curacao.

Requested that DIRKJE now at Barrow and ready for sea early November be sailed in convoy for Halifax for onward passage to Curacao.
No British Liaison Officer is embarked and her armament is one 5 c.m. gun and a few light machine guns.
4. C. in C. A.W.I. is requested to sail DIRKJE independently from Halifax to Curacao following as far as possible the American coast line.
5. It is intended that she should be stationed at Curacao for minesweeping duties under S.N.N.O. Curacao.
(D.M.S., 1222A/31)

Co-operation with Russia.

North Russian Ports.

Information as to ice and fuelling of convoys. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1455C/31) See Lion and Tiger Copies.

Movements.

MARSDALE.

MARSDALE is to leave patrol at 2359A/2 and proceed to Gibraltar passing through (A) 033° N., 30° W.
2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to signal onward route from A.
(S.O.W.P., 1040A/31)

BADSWORTH.

Sailed to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1620A/26.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1427A/30)

RORQUAL.

(i) RORQUAL is to pass 270° Wolf Rock 3.0 miles and R/V with LA CAPRICIEUSE in 250°., Trevose Head 10 miles at 0745A/3.
(ii) Lights for 10 minutes each half-hour as follows.
(iii) T.B.R. in Area 51 north of 050° N., and east of 006° 30' W., will be in force from 0100A/3 to 1200A/3.
(Capt. S.3., 1447A/31 to RORQUAL)

/SEAWOLF.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SEAWOLF. Sailed escorted by CUTTY SARK in accordance with my 1050/30. Admiralty pass S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (A.C.O.S., 1728A/31).

HAZEL. My 1730/30. Sailed 1345. Route to Clyde. HAZEL has no W/T or D/G in operation. (A.C.I.C., 1739/31).

EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD. Request you will take SHEFFIELD under your orders and sail from Scapa for Hvalfjord P.M./1st. (C. in C. H.F., 1836A/31 to C.S.18)

NORMAN. E.T.A. Scrabster 1200/2 having on board 6 Trade Union staff and 6 Russian delegates. (A.C.O.S., 1911A/31)

Operations.

Stationing of East Coast Trawler Patrols. Commencing on night 3/4 trawlers patrolling on searched channel between 54C Buoy and No. 5 Buoy inclusive are normally to be stationed one mile to the westward of the channel buoys or at such less distance to the westward as may be necessitated by low visibility. -Whilst convoys are passing they are to withdraw to a distance of five miles to the westward of the buoys provided safe navigation permits. If weather is such that type 140 cannot be relied on to give indication of approach of convoys, the patrols are similarly to withdraw to the westward in ample time, if necessary laying a lighted Dan Buoy on which to maintain position.
If there is any indication of channels being mined, they are to be searched immediately enemy have retired. Patrols between Sunk and position Z will be stationed one mile to the eastward of the channel buoys as hitherto. (C. in C. Nore, 1114A/31)

Operation "Pantaloon. ATHENE's 1116/26. ATHENE completed loading and proceeded down river to Tail of Bank A.M./31. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1241/31)

/S/M.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

S/M Patrol.

P.36 is carrying out diving patrol between 049° and 050° N., 012° and 014° W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1538/31 to ATHERSTONE).

Search for French Trawler.

M.L. 186 and 182 are searching for French fishing ship sighted in 049° 21' N., 7° 50' W. at 1610. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1756/31 to ATHERSTONE, KUJAWIAK).
If Trawler is not found abandon search in time to arrive Scilly Isles 0730/1. This is a repetition of my 2040/31.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2046/31 to M.L.186, M.L.182).

British Air Activity.

A/C Recognition Signal to Convoy Escorts.

Re recognition light trial with Destroyers of next C.E. convoy and aircraft of 11 Group.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1603A/31 to 11 Group)
Your 1603/31. Concur in trial using landing lights and that special letter should be used for trial, but consider that for normal service the letter of the day must be used as this signal has universal application. It is important therefore that this landing light signal must not be liable to interception by enemy aircraft in the vicinity.
(C. in C. Nore, 2236A/31 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Patrols.

"Bert", "Stand", and "Stab" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1839/31).

Enemy Air Activity.

Myggenaes Lighthouse damaged on 30/10.
FALKUR (Faeroes Fish Carrier, 93 tons damaged).

FALKUR attacked by enemy A/C at 0915 today off Sando. All 4 bombs missed and no casualties from machine gun fire. Ship damaged but brought into Port.
Myggenaes Lighthouse was attacked yesterday between 1200 and 1230 resulting in slight damage and no casualties. The 2 bombs dropped failed to explode. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1610A/31).

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Convoy F.N.39. — Aircraft are attacking in 147° Southwold 14. (WESTMINSTER, 1816A/31).
My 1816.A. Periodical attack continuing. (WESTMINSTER, 1936/31)
Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Attempt" in 130° Southwold 11. (WESTMINSTER, 1943/31)
Enemy bombing Convoy "Attempt" in 082° Southwold 12. (WESTMINSTER, 2152/31)

NICOLAOS PIANGOS. (Greek, 4499 tons). — Arrival GUILLEMOT with Survivors from S.S. NICOLAOS PIANGOS. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2345A/31)

Mining.

Bristol Channel. — All Bristol Channel Ports excepting Newport, Watchet and R. Parrett will be open from 1300 to 2100 today. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1048A/31).

MANXMAN. — My 1303A/30. Sailed 1055. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1155A/31)

S.N.83 A. SHEFFIELD. — My 1112A/29, para 2. As SHEFFIELD is required for another operation request, if circumstance permit, you will release her at nightfall today. (C.in C. H.F., 1231A/31 to RA.M).

Varanger Fiord. — Mines have been laid by Soviet submarines across entrances to Kirkenes and following areas are considered to be dangerous due to mines:
(i) to southward of a line drawn 90° (?from) Kim Island 69° 54' 36" N., 29° 56' 00" E., to longitude 30° 12' 30" E.
(ii) To southward of a line joining following positions (a) 69° 56' 30" N., 29° 42' 00" E. (b) 69° 56' 30" N., 29° 52' 00" E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1339C/31).

Navigational.

Sunk Buoy. — My 1942/30. Sunk Buoy relit. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1555A/31) (Hydrographer, 1735A/31).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Information from GRAPH.

C.A.F.O. 2121/41 is the first official information received by me that German electric torpedoes have only a 5,400 yards range. This information vitally affects stationing of escorts. Request any further information of operational value obtained from GRAPH may be promulgated immediately.
(2) A point on which information is desired is depth to which she can dive.
(C.in C. W.A., 1632/31 to Admty).

Casualties & Defects.

EAGLESCLIFFE HALL.

SABINE with EAGLESCLIFFE HALL in tow proceeding course 290 at 0916.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1017A/31).
EAGLESCLIFFE HALL left Cley in tow of SABINE at 0915 today. Expect reach Humber before dark. Vessel undamaged but screw badly fouled with boom wires. Can be cleared without diver.
(Salvage Officer 1110/31)

ALDER, FLOTTA.

ALDER and FLOTTA are both lying in exposed position. Prospect of salvage dependent on weather. Crew of former being returned to Lowestoft, that of latter standing by ship.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1122/31)

RODNEY.

If RODNEY is to serve in the tropics immediate consideration must be given to the following ventilation and water-cooling requirements. Details. See also my letter 1003/217 of 10/10 and S.O. Force H letter 901/343 of 15/10 and my signal 1946 (?B) 18/5.
(RODNEY, 1131A/31 to Admty).

LAGUNA BELLE. (Paddle Minesweeper).

SEA GIANT proceeded to assist LAGUNA BELLE broken down. Position 20G buoy.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1600/31)

ST. OLAVES (Tug) CARBINEER II (B.D.V.) damaged.

Whilst assisting B.D.V. CARBINEER II destroyer L.O.3 passed at speed creating a heavy swell. ST. OLAVES sustained damage to several feet of starboard rubbing band. CARBINEER II sustained damaged to bridge supports.
(AQUAMARINE, 1800A/31).

/SPEEDY.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

SPEEDY (Fleet Minesweeper).	Aground Laplootminskie. Request (group omitted) may be sent. (SPEEDY, 1900C/31)
DIMITRIOS INGLESSIS. ?NICOLAOS PIANGOS.	Am attempting to save burning DIMITRIOUS INGLESSIS* in 280° Shipwash 3 miles. Request tug. (GUILLEMOT, 1919A/31) * W.D. Note ?NICOLAOS PIANGOS cf. Enemy Air Activity. Your 1919. Tug proceeding from Harwich. (C. in C. Nore, 1951A/31 to GUILLEMOT). Departure tug DIVERSION at 2055A. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 2059A/31) Departure Tug STALWART. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2105A/31) My 2023. Ship breaking in half. Abandoned attempt to salvage. Considered aground in 051° 58' 45" N., 001° 37' 30" E. Am returning to Harwich with survivors. 8 missing. (GUILLEMOT, 2149A/31)
PETER HENDRIKS. (A/S Trawler).	Unable to proceed with B.B.95. Steering gear jammed. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2340A/31)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.12 Z. C.T.6.	My 0646/30. Proposed embarkation programme now delayed by 48 hours. Detailed proposals are as follows. (D. of S.T., 0314A/31)
"Steward"	Ships for "Steward" to proceed independently to Swansea Bay and to be sailed thereafter at 0930/1. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1048A/31)
CAMELIA.	Not met. My P.C.S. are 053° (?30') N., 026° 20' W., 200°, 12. All (?corvettes) in company. (CAMELIA, 1415A/31)

/Route.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Route Signals.	A.M.1954/7th July. Add to para 11. If a ship is fitted with an H/F Transmitter this fact is to be indicated by use of the following phrase:- "H/F Transmission". (D.T.D., 1459A/31)
E.N.1.	N.C.S.O. Methil's 1501/31. I gave permission in my 1558/26/3/41 for the E.C. Convoys to pass through the Pentland Firth during dark hours as their time of sailing was governed by the passage up the East Coast from Southend. Request time of sailing of EN.1 may be adjusted to pass Pentland Firth in daylight. (A.C.O.S., 1822/31)
EMPIRE METEOR, FOCH, ROSE, BLISWORTH.	EMPIRE METEOR S.C.50 has been diverted to Loch Ewe for 500 tons bunkers and to sail with O.N.S. 33 for inclusion in P.Q. 4. If possible ship will be sent ahead of convoy to save daylight 3/11 FOCH ROSE and BLISWORTH will arrive from Oban 2/11 with bunkers. Please give movement every priority and berth ship if possible where coaling will be unaffected by weather. (D.T.D., 1849A/31 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea)
Escort proposals.	My 1358A/26, para 4. Under this first you would be required to provide local escort as follows. (2) P.Q. convoys- to vicinity of Jan Mayen. (3) Q.P. convoys- (a) if proceeding Hvalfjord, to relieve ocean escort in the vicinity of Jan Mayen. (b) If proceeding direct to U.K. to relieve destroyers ocean escort in the vicinity of Jan Mayen. Destroyers would then refuel Seidisfjord and return to relieve the trawlers with convoy. (4) Home Fleet charge document H Y now in transit refers. (5) Request your remarks. (C. in C. H.F., 1932A/31 to A.C.I.C.)
P.Q.3.	Scapa departures. C.S.10 in KENYA with INTREPID, BEDOUIN. E.T.A. Seydisfjord 1300/2. (A.C.O.S., 2307/31).
BB.95.	PETER HENDRIKS unable to proceed. Steering gear jammed. KINGSTON BERYL being instructed by F.O.I.C. Milford Haven to leave O.N.M.32 to reinforce B.B.95. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2340A/31)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Corvettes. Tanker Escorts.	Since allocation of Corvettes to Gibraltar commitments for Tanker escort have arisen. Trawlers until fitted with better W/T, vide my 2247A/25/9 are unsuitable for this type of escort. (ii) With existing number of Corvettes it is not always possible to arrange for them to escort tankers, therefore request allocation to North Atlantic command of one additional Corvette group. (F.O.C.N.A. 0952A/31 to Admty.)
SURVILLE. (French)	My 1758/28. SURVILLE finished loading. Due to sail 1300/31. (N.A. Lisbon 1019/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Fuelling, Azores.	Report whether FURY, FORESTER, FORESIGHT, have fuelled at Azores. If so, when. -(C. in C. W.A. 1136A/31 to Capt. D. Greenock.) Your 1136A/31/10. None of these ships have fuelled at Azores. (FORESIGHT, 1645A/31.)
BARON NEWLANDS. (Bombed 29/10)	Following has been read. Your 2322/30. Impossible BARON NEWLANDS sail today, will sail 1300/1, will await urgent answer. 4-engined bomber last night cruised round ship between 2100 and 2300 hours. (Gibraltar, 1200/31 to Admty.)
Vichy Ships, Policy.	Your submission X.222/345 dated 25/8. Reply to your B. is still under consideration. 2. Your A. Submarines rules are as stated by you with the addition of Admty. 1359/11/3. 3. Your C. Mediterranean sink at sight zones. Ref. Admty. 0047/17/6. Owing to possibility of Vichy tankers being escorted by Vichy warships to the Aegean, Vichy warships should still be sunk if encountered anywhere within the sink at sight zones north and east of a line drawn from a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia to Marsala in Sicily and thence to the Libyan Tunis boundary. 4. Ref. Admty. 2021/20/2 and 1923/22/4. Within the Mediterranean merchant ships identified as enemy may be sunk at sight within French Territorial waters. 5. C. in C. Med. and V.A. Malta are being informed of paras. 3 and 4 above by separate signal. 6. Ref. your 2 (a), revised code of General Instructions for treatment of Vichy warships and merchant ships is being taken in hand and will be promulgated to submarines, destroyers cruisers and above. (Head of M. Approved First Lord, 1548A/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/NINA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

NINA. Lisbon report states Portuguese schooner NINA has been intercepted by a British ship and escorted to Gibraltar for inspection, alleged to have been transporting goods to Occupied France. (D.S. 788.)

Rescue Tug, Azores. Request you will now reply to Admty. 1237A/22. (Re seagoing rescue tug to be stationed at Azores or Funchal). (Head of M. 1950A/31 to N.A. Lisbon. Reply: 1051/1.

South Atlantic.

C.F.3. C.M.21. Your 1707/28. Proposals re composition and sailing dates. (D.S.T., 0313A/31 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)
D. of S.T. 0313/31. As N.L.O. Durban considers it not merely desirable but essential to sail C.F.3 before arrival of W.S.12 I intend sailing VOLENDAM alone escorted by ALCANTARA. Further arrangements will be made for second part of convoy when extent of repairs required by NEA HELLAS is known.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1317B/31 to C. in C. S.A.)
C.F.3, ALCANTARA arrived. (2) ALCANTARA escorting first part Convoy C.F.3, i.e., S.S. VOLENDAM, sailed. E.T.A. Outer End Simonstown searched Channel 0400Z/3. S. of A. 13 knots, routed R.2 to Simonstown.
(N.L.O. Durban 1327Z/31 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)
Convoy C.F.3 comprised of VOLENDAM only sailed for Takoradi 31/10. (Personnel embarked). Requirements at Freetown. E.T.A. 1400Z/11.
(S.S.T.O. Durban 1643B/31 to S.S.T.O. Takoradi.)
Your 1317B/31. In order not to delay HAWKINS you should sail her with VOLENDAM for Takoradi. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will be available for remainder of C.F.3. (C. in C. S.A. 1715N/31 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

/Troop ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Troop Transports. Your 0031/28. Free French Authorities in London advise that 130 Fusiliers Marins from Pointe Noire are same as 128 from Duala. Requirement in my 2203/9 is therefore cancelled by Duala's 1114/22. 2. Request anticipated date of arrival of CHANTILLY at Durban. (D.S.T. 0319A/31 to C. in C. S.A.)

Task Group 3.6. Amend A.T.2127A/30. Movements of Group 3.6 (OMAHA, SOMERS). Left Pernambuco 29/10 to arrive in 15° N. 26° W. on 3/11 thence through position Equator, 43° W. to Trinidad arriving 11/11. (D.O.D.(F) 0855A/31, 1243A/31 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.) 0855/31 and 1243/31 cancelled see 1723/2.

Suspicious Searchlight. B/S NARINGA reports sighting between 0010 and 0040 G.M.T./29 powerful vertical and stationery searchlight beam, estimated to be in 032.25 S., 009.22 E.
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1427B/31 to Admty. etc.)

Wreckage, Pernambuco. My 1645/30. A house flag of American SCANTIC lines has been washed ashore at Pernambuco and a fourth raft of similar type has come ashore Pedras Point, south Cabedelo.
(Consul, Pernambuco, 2045Z/31.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. THRASHER. 2 Merchant ships, one destroyer, 036° 10' 019° 50', course 180°, 8 knots at 1010A/31.
(Capt. S.10, 1051A/31 to THRASHER.)
Southbound convoy 33° 08' 19° 38' at 0030B/1.
(Capt. S.1. 2301Z/31 to THRASHER.)
1 destroyer, 2 merchant ships in 033° 18' N. 19° 34' E. at 2220A/31 presumed southbound.
(Capt. S.10, 2321/31 to THRASHER.)

UNIQUE. UNIQUE leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/1 direct to arrive 032° 45' 019° 12' at 0001B/5 thence to patrol off Benghazi.
(Capt. S. 10, 1123A/31 to Capt. S.1.)

/Vichy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Vichy Ships, Policy. Mediterranean Sink at Sight Zones. Ref. Admty. 0047/17/6. Owing to possibility of Vichy tankers being escorted by Vichy warships to the Aegean, Vichy warships should still be sunk if encountered anywhere within the sink at sight zones north and east of a line drawn from a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia to Marsala in Sicily and thence to the Libyan Tunis boundary.
2. Ref. Admty. 2021/20/2 and 1923/22/4.
Within the Mediterranean merchant ships identified as enemy may be sunk at sight within French Territorial waters.
3. F.O.C.N.A. and S.O. Force (H) have been informed of the above by separate signal.
(Head of M. Approved First Lord, 1546A/31 to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta.)

Crimea. Deep penetration by enemy mechanised columns. Present objectives Evpatoria Bave (corrupt group) then Simferopol. Consider airborne attack probable. Attack from Genichest repulsed. Situation very serious. Russian troops fighting rearguard action from Ishun area. Chanak quite. (quiet?) (N.L.O. Black Sea 1721C/31 to Admty.)

EMPIRE GUILLEMOT. (sunk 24/10.) Italian news bulletin 30/10 indicates that EMPIRE GUILLEMOT was sunk by Italian Torpedo aircraft on 24/10 and that 20 survivors have been picked up off Algiers.
(V.A. Malta, 1748A/31 to Admty.)

Malta Fuel Supply. I am very concerned about Malta's oil fuel supply. Their Lordships will remember negotiations were started in October/40 (See Admty.2017/14/10/40) and were apparently still in progress in April/41 (See Admty 1955/29/4) to obtain fast oilers from U.S. for this station. Is there hope of these U.S. Ships ? BRECONSHIRE is at present our only string and carries comparatively little oil. Loan need only be temporary to rectify present situation. Meanwhile am taking steps to organize passage of fastest tanker available from Eastern Mediterranean to Malta as soon as situation admits.
(C. in C. Med. 1921B/31 to Admty.)

/Warships ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Warships for Turkey.

Your 1843/28, following for information of Adm. Kelly - (i) We are arranging to forward our agreement to proposals contained in Ambassador Angora's 2468 of 20/10 subject to F.O. agreement. (ii) The types of destroyers and submarines being delivered in a year's time are such that no advantage to the Turks or ourselves will arise from giving them new ships of different design to those built for them.
(Head of M. Approved by 1st Lord, 2006A/31 to N.A. Angora.)

Mail Stoppage, Turkey.

Dutch Minister Ankara states he has received no letters or newspapers from Holland during the last (?10) days. 2. On previous occasions a stoppage of Mail has always preceded some important German move.
(M.A. Ankara, 2150/31 to W.O.)

Tobruk bombed.

During night of 30-31/10, enemy aircraft dropped 2 large bombs near the harbour at Tobruk and dive-bombed a gap in a minefield. No damage is reported. (D.S. 789 2/11.)

MOST SECRET.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

W.S.11X. Following is a repetition of my 1226/30. W.S. 11 X arrived. (N.C.S.O.Colombo 1330Z/31 to Adty.).

China.

Japanese ban on ships W/T. Masters of British owned "Alexander" ships chartered to Japanese have reported use of private short wave wireless receiving sets has been prohibited by Japanese Harbour authorities when at sea. Sets are permanently sealed and masters are threatened with arrest if seals found broken on return to Harbour. Masters suggest this may be condition of Japanese Coastal Trade Charter party. I am not able to verify this suggestion but consider in present circumstances it is very momentous that masters of these ships should be out of touch with orders which may be issued to (?British ships) and remain in hands of their Japanese wireless operators. Owners are Wheelock & Co., Shanghai. (N.A. Tokyo 1543/31, to C.in C. China).

America and West Indies.

U.S.Target facilities WARSPITE. Personal for Adm. Little from 1st S.L. Your 1119/26. Please inform C.N.O. that I am most grateful for his offer of target facilities. Ships returning to their Stations from Pacific coast ports are likely to present us with our chief difficulties.

/2.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U.S.Target facilities WARSPITE. -Contd.

2. In this respect I hope it will possible to provide assistance to WARSPITE so that she may get back to her war Station as rapidly as possible after her thorough and speedy refit.
3. A separate signal will follow directing WARSPITE to forward proposals through B.A.R.M. (1st S.L. 1021A/31 to B.A.D.).

U.S. Ships and D/G.

Various U.S. owned ships under neutral flag loading with supplies for Archangel have not been degaussed. Maritime Commission are very anxious to avoid delay involved in degaussing and are prepared to let ships sail, if this would not handicap their inclusion in British convoys and entry into Iceland and Archangel. Intend to advise that all ships should be degaussed, particularly in view of possibility of diversion to British ports, whether on account of damage or other reasons. Request immediate advice. (B.A.D. 1327R/31 to Admty.). Reply 1717/1.

NIAGARA.

Your 1548A/29 confirmed.
(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1454Z/31 to Adty.).

French convoy Dakar.

Dakar 28/10 A.1. FORERNHAUT and ERIDAN escorted by 2 S/Ms and a sloop left 26/10 for Madagascar. (B.A.D. 1521R/31 to S.O.I's Freetown, Capetown etc.).

Trinidad Anchorage.

Navy Dept. request decision on my 1953R/30/9 as soon as possible, as furtherance of large scale construction project is being held in abeyance. (B.A.D. 1541R/31 to Adty.).

Suspicious tanker.

British ship HARMONY now at Boston reports sighting 21/10 in 44.24 N 49.42 W 3,000 ton tanker stopped with Portuguese colours painted aft and "SANTA PRINCESSA -Portugal", amidships. Description. (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1612Z/31 to Adty.).

/Transport.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Transport of aircraft.

Cancel my 1827/30/1/41 and substitute. Any type of Aircraft embarked with naked fuselage that is unboxed can be off loaded only at Liverpool or Clyde or Belfast. Draught on arrival Belfast must not exceed 28' 6". Ships carrying unboxed aircraft must therefore be sailed for Liverpool or Clyde or Belfast subject to draught irrespective of destination declared or sailing destination received from Admiralty. Ships carrying boxed aircraft if bound for East Coast U.K. must be sailed for Clyde. Ships carrying boxed aircraft if bound for West Coast U.K. may be sailed direct to destination. Ships whose destinations are changed in accordance with above procedure are to be indicated in sailing telegram by the notation Supercargo.
(D.T.D. 1722A/31 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.).

PARTHIAN.

When ready for sea B.A.R.M. is requested to arrange for sailing of PARTHIAN to New London to carry out full work-up in accordance with his 0934R/30/9.
(2) On completion of working up PARTHIAN should be sailed to Gibraltar direct.
(3) On sailing PARTHIAN is to be fully manned and ammunitioned and ready for service.
(4) On arrival at Gibraltar PARTHIAN is to be sailed to rejoin 1st S/M.Flot.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1734A/31 to B.A.R.M. etc.).

T.C. 14A.

Convoy T.C. 14A consisting of S.S. PASTEUR carrying Military Personnel and EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW carrying stores will be ready to leave Halifax N.S. for U.K. on 4/11. Escort throughout will be provided by PIORUN and GARLAND. C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to sail ships when ready to pass through position "A" in 40° 00' N 55° 00' W. signalling E.T.A. at this point. Admty. will adjust position "A" as necessary and issue onward route to U.K. Destinations are PASTEUR to Clyde. EMPIRE CONDOR and EMPIRE CURLEW to Liverpool.
(D.O.D.(H) 1752A/31 to N.S.H.Q.Ottawa etc.).

/Tugs.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Tugs for PETUNIA.

Returned from special group Tugs JAMES E HUGHES and BARWICK. Heavy weather. Consider passage at a later date unlikely. (N.C.S.O.Sydney C.B. 1848Z/31 N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1852Z/31 to Admty.).

U.S.N. communications.

My 1711/20. N.S.H.Q.Ottawa has been supplied with grid charts and Navy Dept. are now ready to retransmit groups to Ottawa as soon as they commence to be cyphered in Type X. (B.A.D. 1855R/31 to Admty.).

Ex. U.S. Submarines.

Your 1151A/11. Intended date for taking over the two ex. American submarines is 4/11. Submarines are expected to be ready to sail from New London by 11/11. (B.A.D. 1905R/31 to Admty.).

T.C.15. C.T.6.

Arrangements are being made for Convoy T.C. 15 composed of the ships of C.T. 5 to leave Halifax for U.K. with Canadian troops on 13/11. (2) Proposed. (a) U.S. should provide escort for T.C.15 from Halifax to M.O.M.P and (b) Convoy C.T. 6 composed of two 14-knot ships carrying R.A.F. to Halifax should be sailed from U.K. as requisite to exchange escorts at M.O.M.P. with U.S. escort of T.C. 15. (3) Requested that you will obtain confirmation that these arrangements are suitable to Opnav. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1943A/31 to B.A.D.). Confirmed. (B.A.D. 1531/2.).

CLAESJE.

Your 1730Z/23 H.M.N.S. CLAESJE sailed for Curacao via Norfolk (Virg). E.T.A. Norfolk 0800/5. E.T.A. Curacao A.M./15.(C.O.A.C. Halifax 2011Z/31 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

MOST SECRET.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Destroyers. A. Valuable service of R.A.N. destroyers in Mediterranean much appreciated. Now that all four have been withdrawn for refitting, question of their future disposition arises.
B. Capital ship reinforcements are on their way to Eastern Theatre and the need for destroyers to enable them to operate freely in waters where they may be attacked by Japanese S/Ms is very great. We are unable to spare sufficient from home waters and therefore propose, subject to concurrence of Australian Gov. that these four ships should join the China Station as they complete.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1639A/31 to A.C.N.B.).

LE TRIOMPHANT. Your 0500Z/30 request you will proceed direct to Wellington. Docking can be arranged at Sydney after 6/11. Signal E.T.A. at Sydney.
(N.Z.N.B. 0925M/31 to LE TRIOMPHANT.).

MOST SECRET.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

U.S.S. REUBEN JAMES sunk.

Task Unit 4.1.3. escorting HX.156 attacked by submarine in 51-59 N., 27-05 W., at 0540Z/31. (Opnav, 0855Z/31, to Action N.S.H.Q, Ottawa, and Admty.)
My 0855/31. U.S.S. REUBEN JAMES torpedoed and sunk.
(Opnav, 1512/31, to Admty.)

Convoy O.S.10.

Attacked by one or more submarines, one ship of convoy sunk. My position 050° 52' N., 024° 06' W.
(FREESIA, 2130Z/31 to C. in C.W.A.)
Convoy O.S.10. Position about 560 miles W. of Fastnet. (D.S.788/1/11.)

Submarines Reported.

R.R. Possible enemy submarine in 54.22 N., 21.20 W. R.66.
(A/C using Call Sign ZB9Y, 0915/31 to H.Q.15 Group.)

H.X.156.

H.X.156. D/F bearings indicate convoy has been reported by U-boat since 0500. Corvettes should carry out sweep all round convoy as necessary.
(C. in C.W.A., 1135A/31 to U.S.C.N.Q, BEGONIA LARKSPUR, EGLANTINE, MONTBRETIA.)

0143Z.
0154Z.

Further consideration of D/F bearings received during last night suggests probability that one or more U-boats are to S.E. of Newfoundland. Transmissions on 8365 kc/s at 0143Z/31 and 0154Z/31 refer.
(D.D.I.C. 1220A/31, to Opnav.)

Estimated U-boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1458A/31, 1516A/31, U.S.C.N.O., 2155/31.)

1412 G.M.T.

D/F bearings at 1412 G.M.T. indicate that an Italian U-boat may be in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1624A/31 to Escort H.G.75.)

1527 G.M.T.

D/F Bearings of several transmissions up to and including 1527 G.M.T. indicate that O.N.28 is being shadowed by more than one U/Boat.
(D.D.I.C. 1804A/31 to Opnav etc.)

/1300Z/31.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. Contd.

1300Z/31. Icelandic fishing boat states one of crew sighted submarine about 10 miles off Langaness at 1300Z/31 (066° 23' N., 014° 30' W.) Grade E.O.
(A.C.I.C., 2220Z/31, to A.I.G.46.)

2207 G.C.T. R.D.F. fix on submarine transmission at 41.20N., 59.40 W., at 2207 G.C.T.
(Opnav, 2359Z/31, to Admty.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. Am over enemy submarine in 48.05N., 10.58 W., Sub. on surface course 270° speed 6 knots.
(A/C using call sign H.K.6.D, 1228/31 to 19 Group.) (F.O.S., 1304A/31 to P.36.)
Have attacked enemy Submarine with bombs (dive) estimate one hit.
(A/C H.K.6.D, 1240/31.) Hudson A/C D/53.
(D.S.788.)
Attack enemy submarine reported by aircraft in 48° 05' N., 10° 58' W., course 270° 6 knots. At 1228.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1256/31, to KUJAWIAK, ATHERSTONE.)
My 1256. U-boat was attacked by aircraft, one hit. One Catalina and one Whitley coming to co-operate.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1432/31 to ATHERSTONE, KUJAWIAK.)
Admiralty's 1414. ("Blue" warning sent by D.S.O. Y[illegible] were reported by enemy aircraft at 1312.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1440/31, to KUJAWIAK, ATHERSTONE.)
My 1304. 2 destroyers have been sent to attack enemy submarine.
(F.O.S., 1524?/31 to P.36.)
If not in contact abandon hunt in time to pass through 180° Bishop Rock 10 at 0800/1. Thence ATHERSTONE to Plymouth, KUJAWIAK to Milford Haven.
(2) Fighter protection arranged from 0800/1 codeword KUJAWIAK, "Obstacle", ATHERSTONE, "Obstacle 1".
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1652/31, to ATHERSTONE, KUJAWIAK.)
D.O.R. 1/11 has following version of this hunt: an aircraft sighted a U-boat 300' W., of Brest Peninsula and dropped 3 depth charges while the conning tower was still visible. This was followed by an attack with A/S bombs and a direct hit on the bows was claimed. Several aircraft were then diverted to the position from other tasks, but the U-boat was not sighted again.

/By CAMELIA...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.10.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. Contd.

By CAMELIA. Chasing 2 enemy submarines on the surface bearing 240° 9 miles, engaging with gunfire, my position 053° 21' N., 026° 24' W.
(CAMELIA, 1545/31 to C. in C.W.A.)
(D.D.I.C. 1855Z/31 to Opnav.)
Met. P.C. and S., 058° 18' N., 026° 15' W., 020 9 knots, altering to (? 90°) at 1930 then 045° at 0300 and 010° at dawn. Both S/Ms escaped o surface at high speed.
(CAMELIA, 1730A/31 to C. in C.W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.S.18 in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD sailed from Scapa this evening for Iceland (C).

Destroyers. Changes in the allocation of "A" and "P" class destroyers between the Home Fleet and Western Approaches were ordered by the Admiralty today.

Dover. Enemy coast batteries fired 2 rounds at Dover at 1422 and 1439 today. 1 naval rating was killed, but no damage was caused to naval property.

Enemy Transports. 10 large transports passed Helsingborg at 0950 and 3 more at 1050 today, going south.

PRINZ EUGEN. The camouflage recently covering the superstructure of PRINZ EUGEN at Brest has been removed, and there are rumours of the impending sailing of the ship.

E.N. convoys passing through Pentland Firth. E.N. convoys are to be sailed so as to pass through the Pentland Firth in daylight, but may do so in the dark hours if necessary to avoid missing an ocean convoy. The exhibition of lights in the Firth is undesirable in regard to the defence of the Fleet anchorage, but C. in C. Rosyth considers it must be accepted to avoid delay to shipping.

B.B.Convoys. A revised schedule of sailing for B.B. Convoys (Belfast to Western U.K. ports) is to begin with B.B.97.

British Air Operations.

77 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked targets at Hamburg last night. Bremen, Dunkirk and Boulogne docks were also attacked.

/Attacks ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations - contd.

Attacks on Shipping.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked enemy convoys off the Dutch West Frisian Islands; a 7000 ton tanker and 4 merchant vessels were bombed and hit off Ameland, a 7800 ton merchantman, possibly of the REICHENFELS class was hit by a salvo of bombs and is claimed as sunk and a smaller ship was hit off Terschelling. Off the coast of Norway 4 ships and a Flakship were hit, and a tanker of the ALTMARK class, 18,000 tons, is believed to have been torpedoed at La Pallice.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft dropped 8 bombs near a fishing trawler north of Mygganaes at 1159 today without causing any damage.

At 1300 an enemy aircraft passed over Scapa Flow at 20,000 feet and would have had a good view of the Flow.

A/P Trawler TYRANT was attacked at 2230 today when 8 miles East of St. Govans Light Vessel. No damage or casualties were caused, but S.S. PORTHMONA, attacked a few minutes later by the same aircraft, had two casualties.

Mining.

Operation S.N.83 A.

R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS with WELSHMAN and PORT QUEBEC arrived at Port Z.A. and SHEFFIELD returned to Scapa, this evening (see 30/10).

/7 aircraft ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - Contd.

7 aircraft laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands, 5 in Kiel harbour and 5 in the Jade and Weser rivers.

Bristol Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports were open to traffic from 1400 to 2100 today. Normal working from Cardiff, Penarth and Barry will be resumed from 0500/2, but Watchet, River Parret ports, Newport and ports East of Newport will continue to be subject to restrictions.

Vichy Ships.

Additional instructions for the recruiting for Free French Forces of personnel from captured Vichy French ships were promulgated today by the Admiralty.

North Atlantic.

S.O. Force H. transferred his flag to MALAYA today.

Portuguese Naval authorities are still considering the proposal made on 22/10 to base the rescue tug SALVONIA at the Azores or Funchal, but are rather alarmed at a possible German protest.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer". Boarding Operation "Mud".

At 1800B today SOUTHERN BARRIER, Auxiliary M/S vessel of the Seaward Defence Force, Union of South Africa, sighted the convoy of 5 ships escorted by the sloop D'IBERVILLE which sailed from Tamatave on 24/10, in 36.04 S., 34.44 E. (about 450 miles south of Durban) proceeding on a course of 250° at about 8 knots. COLOMBO and CARTHAGE were ordered to shadow until the arrival of DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE, (which left Simonstown at 1005B/1) when a boarding operation was to begin. These four ships are to form Force F.

Mediterranean.

CENTURION.

C. in C. Med. has been asked if he sees any useful purpose for which CENTURION can be used. If the reply is negative, S.O. Force G. is to report any proposal he may have for using CENTURION to confuse our possible enemies as to the strength of our capital ship force in Eastern waters.

R.A.C.S.15.

The flag of Rear Admiral P.L.Vian D.S.O. as R.A. Commanding C.S.15 was hoisted in NAIAD today.

Attack on Naples and Palermo.

8 Wellingtons from Malta attacked Naples last night and 6 Palermo. The torpedo factory, airframe factory and railway station at Naples were hit, and the main power station at Palermo.

Wellingtons at 2120 today attacked two merchantmen escorted by a destroyer 110 miles west of Derna and dropped a salvo of six bombs directly on to one of the two ships.

Libya and Western Desert.

9 Marylands bombed Derna harbour and aerodrome this afternoon.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Wabana Convoys. Commodore, Newfoundland, in view of present U-boat dispositions and for other reasons, strongly urges that Wabana convoys be discontinued and ships sailed to Sydney C.B. or Halifax for convoy.

U.S. Submarines. Of the 2 U.S. submarines for transfer to Britain, R.3 will be renumbered P.511 and manned by British naval crew and S.25 will be renumbered P.551 and manned by Polish naval crew. They are to be taken over on 4/11 and are due to sail from New London for U.K. on 11/11.

Degaussing. American ships can be accepted for convoy to Iceland or Archangel undegaussed if they would otherwise miss convoy.

U-Boat Campaign.

O.S.10. At 1650N today GORLESTON and VERBENA, escorting O.S.10 attacked and probably destroyed a U-boat in 48° 55' N. 25° (?) 15' W.

BUXTON. The ex-American destroyer BUXTON reported she was attacked by a U-boat 15 miles astern of H.X.156, in 54.30 N., 22.40 W. at 1023A today.

The U.S. fleet tug CHEROKEE obtained contact with a U-Boat at 1715 G.C.T. today in 47.12 N., 43.30 W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

COMMANDANT DETROYAT, COMMANDANT DROGOU, LA MOQUEUSE.

It is intended that COMMANDANT DETROYAT shall be available to you for escort duty in Western Approaches until the completion of work up of COMMANDANT DROGOU.
2. It is anticipated that DROGOU will be ready about the end of January when she will be allocated, with DETROYAT, to French Equatorial Africa.
3. It is anticipated that MOQUEUSE will be required to tow one of two Chasseurs intended for Pointe Noire when the latter are ready. In the meantime MOQUEUSE may be employed on escort duty in Western Approaches.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1224A/1)
Admiralty's 1224A/1. LA MOQUEUSE is to be employed in the Irish Sea Escort Force.
(C. in C. W.A., 1659A/1)

Allocation of A and F class Destroyers.

The following changes in allocation of A and F class destroyers are to take place.
ARROW, ANTELOPE, ACTIVE, ANTHONY, ACHATES from H.F. to W.A. on completion of present and forthcoming refits.
2. FAULKNOR, FORESTER, FORESIGHT, FURY to Home Fleet, the former on completion of refit about 7th November, the three latter about end of November on completion of special duties for which they are at present detailed.
3. FORTUNE, FOXHOUND, FIREDRAKE and FAME to W.A. on completion of refits as already arranged.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1327A/1)

Co-operation with Russia.

NORMAN.

My 1911A/31. The 6 Russians are not now expected. The 6 British delegates will probably proceed direct by air. (A.C.O.S.1124A/1)

Russians for U.K.

Understand you are giving passage to Kouznetsov and 5 other men and Ouspenskaia and another woman.
Request rank and details of these travellers and reasons for their visit. Signals from Admiral Miles giving this information have arrived corrupt. (N.I.D., 1456A/1 to NORFOLK).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

DUKE OF YORK, BERWICK, TARTAR.

Scapa departure BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE. (A.C.O.S., 0431A/1)
C. in C. Nore's 1020A/31. R/V with DUKE OF YORK off May Island at 0900 tomorrow. DUKE OF YORK escorted by BERWICK, PUNJABI, ESCAPADE pass Oxcars at 0800/2. When met provide additional escort to Scapa and for exercises to westward. (R.A.D.H.F., 1200A/1 to TARTAR).
DUKE OF YORK is to take BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE under his orders and sail from Rosyth at 0715 tomorrow proceeding to Scapa carrying out 14 inch firing and trials on passage to arrive 1430/3. TARTAR will R/V off May Island at 0900/2 and act as additional escort in accordance with R.A.(D) H.F. 1200/1.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1521/1)
Arrivals BERWICK, PUNJABI, ESCAPADE.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1601/1).

SHEFFIELD, EDINBURGH.

Scapa arrival SHEFFIELD.
(A.C.O.S., 0837A/1)
C. in C. H.F. 1836A/31. Intend to sail in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD in company passing Hoxa Gate at 2030A/1. Route to approach channel E.T.A. 1200A/3. (C.S., 1005A/1)
Scapa departure C.S.18 in EDINBURGH with SHEFFIELD E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1200/3.
(A.C.O.S., 2036A/1)

P.36.

P.36 leaves patrol after dark 2nd. diving by day through the following positions, to R/V South Eastern end of Q.Z.S. 169 at 0730A/6th.
(Capt. S.5., 0915A/1)
S.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.5., 1600A/1 to P.36.)

P.35.

Intend sailing P.35 escorted by LEICESTER CITY at 0800A/2nd routed as follows passing east of Orkneys and Fair Island to patrol area C.3. LEICESTER CITY to part company in latitude Muckle Flugga and return to Scapa. P.35 to proceed independently diving by day after parting company with LEICESTER CITY.
(A.C.O.S., 1240A/1)

/Destroyers....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Movements. - Contd.

Destroyers in North Russia. — The possibility exists that conditions at Archangel may be unsuitable for Destroyers and they should be prepared to go on to Murmansk for fuel. Using one boiler only with second at 15 minutes' notice for majority of passage they have ample endurance without fuelling at sea.
(F.O. 1st C.S., 1713C/1 to C. in C. H.F.)

MAORI. (Norwegian Officers). — A.M. 2153/14. Rear Admiral H.E. Diesen K.C.B. late C. in C. Royal Norwegian Navy and his Flag Lieutenant, Lieutenant Tore Holthe will embark in MAORI at Clyde on 12/11 for passage to Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. F., 1936A/1)

UNA. — (i) Intend to sail UNA escorted by CUTTY SARK at 1800A/4 for position 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles E.T.A.1900A/6.
(ii) Thence CUTTY SARK returns to Holy Loch.
(iii) Thence UNA through following positions to patrol in Bay of Biscay South.
(iv) UNA if available leave patrol after dark on 12th.
(vi) N.O.I.C. Greenock, is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.3., 2201A/1)

NORMAN — A.C.O.S., 1911A/31 and my 1730C/26. Arrived 3 hours early.
(NORMAN, 2330A/1 to N.O.I.C. Thurso)

Operations.

Operation "Table". — Arrivals T.H. Vessels BEACON and DISCOVERY II escorted by A/S Trawler PHILOMENA. Weather unsuitable. Intend sailing vessels for operation "Table" at 0900 tomorrow.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1003A/1)

Operation "Pantaloon". — Request A/C protection for one aircraft carrier, one aircraft transport, and one destroyer from daylight 2nd, to limit of endurance.
Leave Clyde Boom 2340A/1 to I.C.8392 at 0900A/2 thence to westward course (?210°) speed of advance 15 knots. 3 destroyers join I.C.8392.
(N.O.I.C., Greenock, 1006A/1 to H.Q. 13 and 82 Groups)
My 1004A/1. Sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2348A/1)

/Archangel.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Archangel. Offer of Home Fleet ships to assist any tasks arranged by S.B.N.O. Murmansk. (C. in C. H.F., 1341A/1 to S.B.N.O. Archangel - see U-boat Campaign)

Dover Shelled. Enemy coastal batteries fired two single rounds at 1422 and 1439 today. One fell in the town and one in the sea. One naval rating, one soldier, and one civilian killed. Two naval ratings and two soldiers wounded. No damage to naval property. (V.A. Dover, 1609A/1)

Exercise L.3. To implement agreed policy for training Communication Ratings for combined operations it is necessary for C.Q.2 to loan signal ratings required by V.A.C.T.C. for course starting A.M./3 The minimum number of signal ratings required for forthcoming Exercise L.3. is to be provided for that Exercise. In the event of an operation being ordered requisite communication ratings will be provided. (D. of P. 1907A/1 to V.A. C.T.C.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. My 1839/31. "Stab" 0%, "Bert" 65%, "Stand" 65%. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0015/1) P.R.U. of Bergen, Haugesund, Stavanger, Kristiansand, and Aalesund now in operation. "Hornli" taking off shortly. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1023/1) My 1023/1 "Hornli" - 100%. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1857/1)

Enemy Convoy attacked. One Tanker hit. 10 Merchant vessels bearing 080° distance 1 mile, course 060°. My position 3030. (A/C, L, 407, 0022/1 to Chatham). Convoy attacked in 53° 20' N., 4° 48' E. (A/C L.407, 0040/1 to North Coates). 8 Merchant vessels bearing 340° distance 6 miles from Ameland Light. (A/C 0045/1 to Chatham). Bombed and hit Tanker. Own aircraft damaged, hydraulic system destroyed. (A/C 2 of S. Squadron 0115/1 to North Coates). 8 M/Vs in 53° 25' N., 4° 55' E., attacked. (A/C H/407, 0220/1)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.39 NICOLAOS PIANGOS, (Greek, 4499 tons) sunk. BRITISH FORTUNE, (British Tanker, 4696 tons) sunk.	About 1900/31 NICOLAOS PIANGOS bombed and set on fire, later grounded on North End of Shipwash Bank and broke in two. Still burning. Survivors landed by GUILLEMOT at Harwich. 8 men missing. At time at present unknown BRITISH FORTUNE bombed and sunk in about 265° Aldeburgh Light buoy one mile. 23 survivors in steamship CORCHESTER. (C. in C. Nore, 0043A/1) Master and crew of nine from BRITISH FORTUNE landed Grimsby. Uninjured. Master states ship bombed off Aldeburgh Buoy at 1900/31, sank in same position at 1930/31. (F.O. Humber, 1140A/1)
Faeroes, Trawler Attacked.	1 enemy aircraft dropped 8 bombs near fishing trawler North of Mygganaes at 1159 today. No apparent damage. Subsequently reported flying east of Nolso and off Sumbo lighthouse. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1250A/1)
?Condor A/C.	RR. One (?Condor A/C or Cruiser) in 52° 55' N., 12° 48' W. (AC. Group 15, Duty P., 1315/1)
Scapa.	At 1300 enemy A/C was seen to pass over the Flow height 20,000 feet west to East. Ground defences engaged. Fighters failed to contact. Enemy aircraft would have had good view of Flow. (A.C.O.S., 1315/1)
Murmansk.	Two enemy R/C A/C over Murmansk. No bombs dropped. Russians claim one Ju. 88 shot down into sea off Fisherman's Island by Hurricane. (151 Wing, 1800/31).

Mining.

32nd Oropesa Group.	Sailed. E.T.A. 1730. (N.O.I.C. Leith 0730/1 to N.O.I.C. Dundee).
Bristol Channel.	All Bristol Channel Ports without exception will be open to traffic from 1400 until 2100 today. Normal working from Cardiff, Penarth, and Barry will be resumed from 0500/2 but Watchet, River Parret, ports, Newport and Ports East of Newport will continue to be subject to restrictions. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1028A/1)
S.N.83.	Arrival R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS, WELSHMAN, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2201/1)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

13 Transports in The Sound. Ten large transports passed Helsingborg at 0950 hours and three more at 1050 hours today all going south. Ships directly observed by British Consular official. (British Consul, Goteborg, 1233/1)

PRINZ EUGEN. A detailed examination of photographs taken on 30 October shows that the camouflage recently covering the superstructure of the PRINZ EUGEN at Brest has been removed. The white camouflage over the bow and stern remains in place. There are rumours of the impending sailing of this ship. (D.D.I.C., 2235A/1)

Casualties & Defects.

LAGUNA BELLE. My 1600/31. Returned with P.M.S. in tow. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0705/1)

SNOWDROP. Returned Sunderland with engine room defects. Will not be ready for sea for atleast six days. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1101/1)

DUNDEE. N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 0847/27. Firth of Forth fish carrier DUNDEE due Scrabster 1700/28 has not arrived. (A.C.O.S., 1235A/1)

ALEX WATT. (Crail torpedo recovery wooden drifter). Collided with jetty in Anstruther Inner Harbour at 0050 today. Considerable damage to stem and vessel is not seaworthy. Vessel is beached in Anstruther Harbour. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1258/1)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

C.T.5. Following ships sailed U.K.30/10. Composition and details. (D. of S.T., 0720A/1) See Lion Copy.

C.T.6. My 0314/31. Sailing of C.T.6 has been postponed by 48 hours. Embarkation of A.10 and A.18 will be delayed correspondingly. Arrangements for W.S.12 Z are not altered.
(D. of S.T., 0722A/1, to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland).

W.P.60. Ships for "Steward" and "Sapper" Group are to proceed independently to Swansea Bay and to be sailed therefrom at 0900/2 and 1000/2., respectively. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1028A/1).

E.N.1. and E.N. Convoys in Pentland Firth. A.C.O.S. 1822/31/10. Sailing of E.N.1. will be adjusted so as to pass through Pentland Firth in daylight.
It appears necessary that on some occasions E.N. convoys must pass through the Pentland Firth in dark hours in order that ships shall not miss the sailing of an ocean convoy. I appreciate that exhibition of lights in the Pentland Firth is generally undesirable having regard to the defence of the Fleet anchorage but I consider this must be weighed against the necessity of East Coast Shipping connecting with ocean convoys with least possible delay. I therefore propose that, in general, E.N. convoys should be sailed so as to pass through the Pentland Firth in daylight, but that when this is impracticable for other considerations the passage of the Pentland Firth should be made in the dark hours with the necessary exhibition of lights.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1519/1)

Stranraer - Larne and Stranraer - Belfast Ferries. Codeword "Gamma". Additional sailings will leave Stranraer 1100A for Larne and 1400A for Belfast on each of following dates, 2/11 3/11, 5/11, 8/11, and subsequently daily until 22/11. Ships conveying military personnel, S. of A. approx. 22 knots. Request air co-operation already provided for codeword "Gamma", may be extended to cover these additional sailings. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1614A/1)

/BB.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

B.B. Convoys. The following revised schedule of sailing of B.B. convoys is to be brought into force commencing with B.B.97.
2. B.B. convoys are to leave Belfast between the hours of 0001 and 0200Z days. They will thus arrive off position "X" between 1400 and 1600 and off Milford Haven between 0800 and 1000 Z + 1 day.
3. Position "X", the R/V for the Holyhead ships, is to be moved 3 miles to the westward to a position 270° South Stack 11 miles.
4. Until further orders all convoys, whether north or southbound, are to use the alternative route, which is 3 miles either side of a line joining positions "G" and "K".
(C. in C. W.A., 1702A/1)

Warmest congratulations on bringing home another convoy safely. (C. in C. W.A., 1829A/1 to Rear-Admiral F.B. Watson).

Convoy S.C.49. Warmest congratulations on the safe arrival in the U.K. of your convoy S.C.49.
(C. in C. W.A., 1833A/1 to Commodore C.M. Ford, R.N.R.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Vichy French Ships. — My 2217/28/6 and C.A.F.O. 1372/41. Following additional instructions for recruiting for Free French Forces of officers, crews and passengers from captured Vichy French ships are notified. (Head of M., 2103A/1 to Cs in C. etc.) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

O.S.9 G. — Arrivals STONECROP, LEITH, FOWEY, WILD SWAN, ISAAC SWEERS, escorting O.S.9 G. (F.O.C.N.A. 0716A/1.)

TETRARCH. — Report your P.C. and S. forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 0938A/1 to TETRARCH.)

Rescue Tug, Azores. — Your 1950A/31. Question of rescue tug still being considered by Portuguese Naval Authorities who are rather alarmed at possible German protest. (N.A. Lisbon, 1051/1 to Admty.)

SARASTONE (sunk 29/10) — My 2340A/30. Following signals from Consul Huelva passed for information 0330/30, 1500/30, 1200/31, Cadiz Navigation warning. LOCH OSKAIG has been instructed to try to fix position of wreck and report result by W/T. (V.A.C.N.A. 1102A/1 to Admty.)

S.L.91 G. — Sailed convoy S.L.91 G. CARNATION. Local escort SIKH, VIDETTE, AZALEA, STELLA CARINA, LADY HOGARTH. (F.O.C.N.A. 1732A/1 to Admty. etc.)

SURVILLE (French) — My 1019/31. Sailed 1700 today. (N.A. Lisbon 1921/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

H.G.76. — Request you will issue necessary orders for DEPTFORD, AUDACITY, SAMPHIRE, PENTSTEMON, CONVOLVULUS, VETCH, MARIGOLD, COWSLIP, RHODODENDRON, to bring back H.G.76. (C. in C. W.A. 1943A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/S.S.COURDONNE ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

S.S. COURDONNE. (French) — Arrived Pasajes from Bayonne 30/10 Cargo detected to be wood pulp. Left for Bilbao same date. (V.C. San Sebastian 2100/1 to M.E.W.)

BARON NEWLANDS. (Bombed 29/10) — Messages 0330/30 and 1500/30 from Gibraltar only received in Admty. 1730/1. Messages 2322/30 referred to in Gibraltar 1200/31 cannot be traced and latter only received 1527/1. In view of Gibraltar's 1200/31, request you will sail BARON NEWLANDS at your discretion. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2318A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

21 Military survivors ex SHARISTAN. — Your 1058/30. DESIRADE has accommodation and could do this. (C. in C. S.A. 1116N/1 to Adty.)

AQUITANIA. — Your 2219/27 Para.3. (? Dept. of Defence, Union of S. Africa) (? are not) in favour of using AQUITANIA for embarking troops in Table Bay. Reasons. If it is decided to utilise ships 2 tankers will have to be provided, one for fuel and one for water and from past experience risks of damage to these from unfavourable weather will have to be accepted. Request early decision. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1259B/1 to Admty.) See also East Indies 1507A/1.

Operation "Bellringer". — SOUTHERN BARRIER, S.D.F. Minesweeper, has sighted 5 ships and Sloop in 36° 04' S. 34° 44' E. at 1800/1. COLOMBO proceeding to make contact. F.O.I/C Simonstown plan is to shadow with COLOMBO and CARTHAGE until DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE join and then to start boarding operation.
(C. in C. S.A. 1941N/1 to Admty.)
Simonstown departures 1005B/1 DEVONSHIRE and CARNARVON CASTLE, speed 17 knots, to R/V with COLOMBO and CARTHAGE to form Force F. for operation "Bellringer".
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown. 2333B/1 to Admty.)

/Convoy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer" contd. — Convoy of 5 ships and one sloop sighted by Seaward Defence Force vessel at 1800B/1 in 036° 09' S. 034° 44' E. course 250° speed about 8 knots. Force F. is endeavouring to intercept.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2353B/1 to Admty. etc.)
W.D. Note.- Latitude here given (09' S) differs from 1941N/1 (04' S).

R.A.S.A.D. Visit to Falklands. — Your 1458Z/27. Concur in your visit to Falkland Is. after ASTURIAS joins your flag on completion of escort of DERWENTDALE, but would rather you waited till DEVONSHIRE leaves Cape northbound, date of which is not yet settled. Will communicate this as soon as known.
(C. in C. S.A. 2337N/1 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

M/V damaged. — Malta reports that Wellington aircraft attacked an enemy convoy 110 miles W. of Ras Aamer, near Derna, at 2120/1. Convoy consisted of 2 M/Vs of 5000 tons and 6000 tons escorted by a destroyer. 6 direct hits were scored on the 6000 ton M/V which was left stationary emitting clouds of black and white smoke. (D.O.R. 3/11 D.S.790. No signal in W.D.)

CENTURION. — Request whether any useful purpose for which CENTURION can be used in near future. If report is in the negative, S.O. Force G. should report any proposal he may have for using CENTURION in such a manner as to confuse our possible enemies as to the strength of our capital ship force in Eastern Waters.
(1st S.L. 0044A/1 to C. in C. Med.)

/Enemy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Shipping, routes. TRIUMPH reports all ships in Gulf of Athens use searched channels Eastward of Phleva. Trawlers patrol Area Eastward St. Georgio. Regular Caique traffic Mandri and Euripo Channel. (Capt. S.1, 0201B/1 to PROTEUS.)

TAMPICO (Italian) My 1005B/? 17. TAMPICO passed in transit for Trieste 830 G.M.T. with 5000 tons of gas oil. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1045B/1, to S.O.I. Med.) This tanker passed into Black Sea on 30/8. There are still 2 Italian tankers, ALBARO and SUPERGA in Black Sea, though there have been unconfirmed reports that SUPERGA was sunk by the Russians. (D.S. 789, 2/11.)

Bardia bombed. 2 F.A.A. Albacores on offensive night R/cs of area Bardia-Gambut-Oersa Lukk attacked building near Bardia and dump 3 miles East of Gambut causing violent explosion at latter. (H.Q., M.E., 1111/1)

U/Boat. Sighted 1220B/1, near miss by 1 bomb. (Capt. S.1, 1531B/1) See U-Boat Campaign.

Axis Shipping. Departure 31/10 COETLOGON French, MAURO CROCE, Italian, Valencia; ATLAS, Sagunto. (Barcelona, 1333/1, to Admty.)

UNIQUE. My 1123A/31. UNIQUE route altered to 035° 20' 014° 14' and 034° 30' 015° 00' to arrive 032° 45' 019° 12' at 0001B/5. (Capt. S.10, 1625A/1 to THRASHER)

Naples and Palermo bombed. (A) 14 Wellingtons dispatched attack factory Naples with merchant shipping Palermo alternative target. Bombs dropped 3 x 4,000 lbs., 4 x 1,000 lbs, 29 x 500 lb. G.P.4 x 500 lb. S.A.P.12 x 100 lbs and 7200 lbs. incendiaries. 8 Wellingtons attacked Naples, 6 attacked Palermo after finding Naples under low cloud. Time over target Naples 1850-0055 hours, Palermo 2155-0034 hours. Results, Naples 4,000 lb. bomb hit torpedo factory, other bombs area airframe factory and railway station. Palermo hits main power station, etc. (H.Q., Malta, 2156/1.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

C.M.22. — Your 1835/29. Escort will be available on 16th at Durban. Convoy will be known as C.M.22. (C.in C.E.I. 0806Z/1 to Admty.).

AQUITANIA. — As AQUITANIA cannot be delayed if she is to reach Capetown in time to comply with my 1835A/29 she should be sailed from Colombo for Capetown as soon as fuelling is completed.(2). If report from F.O.I.C.Simonstown called for by A.M. 2219A/27 is unfavourable she should be diverted at sea to Singapore. (D.O.D.(F) 1507A/1 to C.in C.E.I.).

China.

Axis Shipping. — Shanghai. Departure 1300Z/31 German QUITO with general cargo, including copper lead, motor car tyres, and drum paint and oil. Loading was done from Japanese Charter Lighter under Japanese supervision.
Yugo Slavia ship TOMISLAV boarded by 3 officers and 26 men from CONTE VERDE (Italian) on 28/10. -Italian Consular Officer informed master that ship now LLOYD TRIESTINO.
Kobe departure about 22/10 Italian CORTELLAZZO.
Arrival 27/10 German MUNSTERLAND.(476).
(C.O.I.S.Singapore 0301Z/1 to Admty.etc.).

NORVIKEN. — Norwegian NORVIKEN left Hong Kong 23/10 for Singapore. Overdue three days.
(S.O.I.Singapore 0741Z/1 to C.in C. China.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

PANDORA. My 1718R/9/10 and my 1022R/16/10. If trials and working up practices proceed according to programme PANDORA will sail from New London for Bermuda on Wednesday 3/12.
(B.A.R.M. 0918R/1 to Admty.).

Suspicous tanker. On 21/10 a 3,000 ton tanker with Portuguese colours painted aft and OSANTA PRINCESSA-Portugal amidships was sighted stopped in 44° 24' N. 49° 42' W. Description. Possible tanker may have been a German supply ship.
(D.D.I.C. 1234A/1 to Opnav, C.in C. A.W.I.).

Refits of corvettes. Your 1245Z/8/10 and N.S.H.Q. 1559/21/10. Intended that MAYFLOWER should follow DIANTHUS and EYEBRIGHT arriving about 14/11. DIANTHUS will probably complete about end of November. Four corvettes can be accepted simultaneously commencing late November. Free French Corvettes themselves are not objected to but State Dept. prefers they should not be sent, owing to nationality of crew over desertions and difficulties with Vichy Gov. and fact that they have no diplomatic representative in U.S.A.
(B.A.R.M. 1334R/1 to Admty.).

Repair base, Port Sudan. Maxwell mission requires following information, (?Light) craft repair base Port Sudan.
(B.A.D. 1341R/1 to Admty. amended 1831R/3).

Reporting of Convoy Positions. Instructions have been received from Comtask Force 4 to notify Canadian Escort Units that Admty. 1149A/13/10 573 A.Z, does not apply West of 22° W. Before I promulgate to Canadian Escort Units request confirmation that Canadian Escort Units are not to comply with 573 A.Z., as it was understood that such reports would be of great value to Opnav in estimating situation in N. Atlantic.
(C.C.N.F. 1401Z/1 to B.A.D.).
Your 1401/1. Matter still under active consideration by Navy Dept. Suggest you delay action pending further signal from B.A.D.
(B.A.D. 1529R/1 to C.C.N.F.) See also 1155/2.

/ R/C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

R/C Patrols. Admty. 0159/1. E.A.C. have arranged for R/C patrols weather permitting. No. R.C.N. ships are immediately available for Belle Isle patrol. (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1436Z/1 to Admty. etc.).

Wabana convoys. In view of present dispositions of U-boats off Newfoundland and reasons given below strongly urge Wabana convoys be discontinued forthwith and ships be sailed to Sydney (C.B.). or Halifax fo convoy.
(1) Wabana anchorage has no A/S protection. Undesirable to keep ships waiting there for convoy.
(2) St. John's N.F. quite unsuitable as convoy assembly port due to congestion and lack of means to enforce proper control over Merchant ships.
(3) On several occasions ships have missed S.C. convoys due to failure to effect junction owing to heavy weather, etc.
(4) Additional R/V off St.John's N.F. most desirable particularly if convoys are re-routed before they reach the prearranged Wabana junction. In the case of S.C. 52 this resulted in making it impossible to sail W.S.C. 52 with any hope of effecting a junction. In the long run time would be saved if ships proceed when loaded direct to Sydney (C.B.) or Halifax. The majority of ships normally join S.C. convoys. (C.C.N.F. 1509Z/1 to N.S.H.Q Ottawa). See also 1531Z/2.

DELHI. Will work up in U.S.A. waters and then return to U.K. Ratings to complete ship to approx. full complement will be sent so as to arrive by end of November. (V.C.N.S. 1612A/1 to B.A.R.M.).

Tugs for PETUNIA. Your 1153A/30/10 para. (2) Both tugs leaking badly and definitely unsuitable for attempting ocean passage before major overhaul. Huband is informing M. of W.T. of situation regarding all Lease--Lend tugs in Canada. Also giving crew and repair reasons for delay in sailing tugs referred to in your 2150A/20/10.(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1627Z/1 to Admty.).

/U.S.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

U.S.Ships and D/G. Your 1327R/31. Ships can be accepted for convoy to Iceland (C) or Archangel undegaussed, if they would otherwise miss convoy. Degaussing should be completed at first available opportunity. Names of ships sailing undegaussed should be reported. (D.T.D. 1717A/1 to B.A.D.).

Submarines from U.S.A. Your 1048A/1. (N.T. in W.D.). Submarine to be numbered P.511 is now U.S. No. R.3. Submarine to be numbered P.551 is now U.S. No. S-25. (B.A.D. 1725C/1 to Admty.).

Casablanca. Shipping Intelligence, 1910 to 29/10, A.1. (B.A.D. 1733R/31 to S.O.I.Freetown.) See Lion Copy.

INDOMITABLE. Bermuda. Departure INDOMITABLE in accordance with my 1602Q/27/10. E.T.A. Kingston, Jamaica, P.M./3. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1803Q/1 to Admty.).

H.X.159. Recommended route, concur. (Opnav 2255/1 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT. A.T. 1412A/15. LE TRIOMPHANT has defects which necessitate dockyard assistance at Wellington and subsequently dry docking at Sydney after 6/11. LE TRIOMPHANT is to signal proposed onward programme when date of completion at Sydney is known.
(D.O.D.(F) 1251A/1 to C.in C's A.C.N.B. etc.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Enemy Tactics.

It is probable that a U-boat recently detected by hydrophonic (?contact) at night dived unobserved and was overrun by escort who lost contact. Attention is drawn to C.B.4097 (2) para. 134 (f). An occasional transmission might have warned escort of close range of U-boat.
(C. in C.W.A., 1909A/1, W.A. Gen. Message N.225.)

Ships Attacked.

BUXTON. Attacked by enemy submarine in 054° 30' 022° 40',15 miles astern H.X.156.
(BUXTON, 1023A/1, to C. in C.W.A.)
BUXTON counter-attacked, negative result.
(D.S. 789.)

Submarines Reported.

1725 G.M.T./31. D/F Bearings of several transmissions since 1725 G.M.T./31 indicate that Convoy H.X.156 is being shadowed by more than one U-boat.
(D.D.I.C. 0142A/1 to Escort H.X.156.)

0957 G.M.T. D/F Bearings at 0957 G.M.T. indicate that H.X.156 is still being shadowed.
(D.D.I.C. 1145A/1 to Escort H.X.156.)

1229Z. D/F Bearings at 1229Z/1 indicate U/Boat in vicinity of Convoy "Cargo" and possibly reporting convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 1400Z/1, to (Alusna for Opnav for Safford.)

Archangel Area. Your 1310C/30 (report of U/B). I hope you will not hesitate to arrange direct with S.O.Home Fleet at Archangel if there are any tasks, operational or otherwise, in which Home Fleet ships can assist, subject to the performance of their other duties.
(C. in C.H.F., 1341A/1, to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

Estimated approx., positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1443A/1, 1444A/1.)

1100Z. U.S.aircraft sighted s/m in 051° 55' N., 045°02' W., course 038°, but stopped, at 1100Z/1.
(A.C.I.C., 1735/1, to Admty.)

/1620Z.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. Contd.

1620Z. D/F Bearings at 1620Z/1 indicate there is still a U-boat in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2058A/1 to Escorts of O.S.10.)

1734Z. D/F Bearings on at 1734Z/1 indicate U-boat still in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2313A/1 to Escorts H.X.156.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CHEROKEE. CHEROKEE contacted U-boat 47.12 N., 43.30 W., at 1715 G.C.T/1.
(Opnav, 1939/1.)
CHEROKEE, fleet tug, 1250 tons, 1 3-in H.A./L.A., and 1 M/G. (C.B., 01815(U))

1220B. Mediterranean. Position of U-boat sighted at 1220B today, 033° 44', 024° 48' 000°, 4, near miss by 1 bomb.
(Capt., S.1, 1631B/1, to TRIUMPH.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

In view of the rumours of impending sailing of PRINZ EUGEN from Brest P.36 is to be routed to pass through 47° 30' N. 10° 0' W.

British Air Operations.

A force of 134 aircraft of Bomber Command was despatched to attack targets at Kiel, 13 to attack dock installations at Le Havre and 17 to attack the enemy naval units at Brest. Many of the aircraft failed to find their objectives, owing to bad weather.

4 Hampdens detailed to attack shipping off the Frisian Islands found 2 convoys, one of about 20 ships and one of 8. One ship received a direct hit and others near misses.

6 Hudsons of Coastal Command bombed the docks at St. Nazaire last night, and Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks on shipping off Terschelling in the early hours of today, off Ameland at early light and after dark, and, also after dark, off Norway and off Borkum.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Attacks on Shipping.

One enemy aircraft dropped 3 bombs in Skaale Fiord at 1802 today. No damage or casualties were caused.

Shipping off Aberdeen was attacked after dark this evening. No damage or casualties occurred.

Convoy F.S.36 was attacked at 1645 in 53° 33' N. 0° 47' E., and S.S. MARIE DAWN was sunk. The convoy was attacked again at 1855 near the East Dudgeon and S.S. BRYNMILL was damaged and is presumed sunk.

It is reported that Dutch tanker OCANA in F.N.40 was damaged by air attack on the convoy at 1746 today off Spurn Point.

Danish S.S. THYRA III was damaged tonight and the small tanker AGILITY is also reported to have been damaged at 1900 by bombs dropped in Yarmouth Roads.

Fishing trawler CALIPH was sunk at 1740 B.S.T. today whilst fishing with 14 other trawlers 10 or 12 miles South of the Old Head of Kinsale.

Mining.

4 aircraft laid mines last night in Kiel harbour and one off Sassnitz.

Enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying in Liverpool Bay last night.

/Bristol.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining-Contd.

Bristol Channel. — Further minelaying in the Bristol Channel was suspected last night and mines were detonated today. All Bristol Channel ports were open from 1500 to 2200 today; certain ports remained closed after 2200. A hopper was sunk in 51° 21' N. 3° 17' W. this afternoon.

North Atlantic.

RODNEY left Gibraltar at 2215 today, escorted by 4 destroyers.

South Atlantic.

SURCOUF. — On completion of refit and working up in U.S.A. SURCOUF is to be employed on the South Atlantic, and should occasion arise the East Indies Stations, to destroy enemy units using refuelling areas.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Air operations. Six Blenheims this morning attacked and hit an escorted 3,000 ton merchantman in 062° Melita 45 miles. This would appear to be the French S.S. SENNEVILLE, and the Vichy authorities protested against the attack.

A nuisance air raid on Naples last night by aircraft from Malta was curtailed on account of bad weather.

Libya and Western Desert. Aircraft bombed the Cathedral Mole and petrol dumps at Benghazi last night.

Operation "Glencoe". ABDIEL and 10 destroyers commenced operation "Glencoe" p.m. today (transport of a division of 11,000 Indian and 3,400 British troops from Egypt to Cyprus and 15,500 British troops from Cyprus to Palestine). R.A. (D) is in charge of the operation.

Force K. Force K was at sea last night without result.

Suez Bay and Gulf. 3 or 4 enemy aircraft dropped bombs between 2347/1 and 0340/2 near Suez and near CARLISLE escorting a convoy about 100 miles south of Suez. No damage or casualties are reported.

Aden Force. From 1200 today, the following ships will be addressed as the Aden Force and will come under the operational control of N.O.I.C. Aden: INDUS, HINDUSTAN, SAVORGNAN, DE BRAZZA, RATNAGIRI, NETRAVATI, BATHURST, LISMORE.

Sevastopol. German aircraft bombed Sevastopol today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

It is reported that S.S. FRANCOIS L.D. sailed from Saigon ostensibly for Kobe on 15/8 with 7000 tons of rubber which represents one third of estimated present German deficiency of raw rubber. It is believed likely that S.S. PIERRE L.D. which has now passed the Sunda Strait for Saigon will carry a further 6000 tons of rubber which will be ready for shipment to Germany via France during this month.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Strike on Clyde.

A number of Stokers and Fitters from Rosyth Dockyard have left A.F.D.4 without permission during last week, some of them since ROYAL SOVEREIGN docked. Proposed permanent complement from southern yards for work in Dock have not yet reported. Possibility of obtaining local labour is being examined.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2225/2.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Archangel.

Your 2359/29. I do not understand Russian Ambassador's optimism regarding numbers of ships per mensem. 50 Ships of present size and nature of cargo could not be handled at Archangel per mensem even if there were 50 ice breakers available. Lack of port facilities and unskilled labour quite apart from ice are causing anxiety regarding possibility of even handling numbers of ships indicated in my telegram 1 2000/18 para.(2) although new railway line at Bakharista quay plus most competent assistance from S.T.Os and Movement Control will assist November discharge position. Mr. Papanyin advised me on 30/10 of only 3 heavy ice breakers LENIN, STALIN and LITKE plus 2 auxiliary ice breakers and 3 ice clearing tugs. I asked him specifically about possibility of bringing 5 extra ice breakers from North about route but received a negative reply. I am meeting Papanyin again on Monday to advise you immediately if he has any further information regarding extra ice breakers.
(S.N.O. Archangel 1120/2 to Adty.)

Iokanga.

HUSSAR's report on Iokanga.
(a) Submerged and unmarked nets at Northern entrance make it difficult to enter and impossible without pilots. Latter are available.
(b) Capacity of anchorage for British ships as in my 1312C/24/10 confirmed. This takes into account needs of Russians.
(c) Fuel and provisions could be provided in emergency (corrupt group). Minor repairs can be carried out.
(d) S.B.N.O. North Russia has forwarded details of defences and chart in NORFOLK.

/2. ...

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanga contd.

2. Recommend Iokanga should be used only as
(a) Temporary anchorage for minesweepers.
(b) Emergency anchorage for part of convoy and necessary escort when ice conditions prevent icebreakers taking whole convoy through White Sea together.
3. When Archangel no longer usable consider escort should always fuel at Murmansk as (? opposed to) sending oiler to Iokanga.
4. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1645C/2.)

Movements.

P.35.

S/M P.35 and LEICESTER CITY sailed in accordance with my 1240A/1. (A.C.O.S. 0757A/2.)
P.35 sailed from Scapa 0800A/2 routed East of Orkneys as follows to patrol. Escorted by LEICESTER CITY to latitude of Muckle Flugga.
(A.C.O.S. 1000A/2.)

DUKE OF YORK. BERWICK.

Departure DUKE OF YORK, BERWICK, PUNJABI, and ESCAPADE. (C. in C. Rosyth 0845/2.)
Repeat my 1529/31 (not received in W.R.) on passage north between 1120 and 1326. BERWICK pass 1529/31 to DUKE OF YORK and TARTAR. Report by signal results obtained.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1015/2 to BERWICK.)
As BERWICK is required for fuel trial p.m. tomorrow, ship is not to complete fuelling tonight unless an emergency arises. GREY RANGER is to be in A.4 berth before dark ready to fuel BERWICK if latter is ordered to have steam at less than 2 hours notice.
(C. in C. H.F. 1109A/2 to BERWICK.)

LANOLA.

Your 1556A/31. Intend sailing Q.V.1 LANOLA to Hamble 0900/4. E.T.A. 1230/4. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to supply appropriate aerial protection. (N.O.I.C. Poole 1005/2.)

P.36.

In view of Admiralty 2235A/1, P.36 is to be routed to pass through 47° 30' N. 10° W.
(F.O.S. 1022A/2.)
Cancel my 1600A/1st except paras.3 and 4 of bombing restrictions. Leave Patrol after dark 2nd diving by day routed as follows to R/V in 050° 31' N. 000° 41' at 0730A/6. S.B.R. as follows. (Capt. S.5. 1107A/2 to P.36.)

/Cancel ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

P.36 contd. — Cancel para. A to E of my 0915/1st and substitute following route to R/V Q.Z.S 169 at 0730A/6. (Capt. S.5 1145/2 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

NORMAN. — Scapa arrival. (A.C.O.S. 1051A/2.)

MINERVE. — Amend route as follows to R/V with EQUERRY 90° out Skerries 8 miles 0700A/3 for escort direct to Dundee. (Capt. S.9. 1127A/2 to MINERVE.)

Ex U.S.A. S/Ms P.511. P.551. — B.A.D. Washington 1905 /31.
A. Intend British-manned R. Class submarine designated P.511 and Polish-manned S. Class submarine designated P.551 should be commissioned on 4/11 as tenders to TITANIA for service in 3rd S/M Flotilla.
B. Intend both should be sailed for Holy Loch. If sailed together routes should be about 60 miles apart, routes on Home Station to be indicated by C. in C. W.A. Suggested R/V should be off Barra Head with an escort provided by S.3. (F.O.S. 1311A/2.)

SPEEDY. — Left Kandalaksha 1400C/2. E.T.A. Dvina Light-ship 0700C/3. (SPEEDY 1400C/2.)

KING GEORGE V. VICTORIOUS KENT BERWICK SUFFOLK. — Intend to sail from Scapa at 1730/3 in KING GEORGE V. with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 7 destroyers, and proceed Hvalfiord. Route through 058° 45' N. 008° W. and thence direct to Reykjanes Passage. Speed of advance 17½ knots. (C. in C. H.F. 2337A/2.)

Operations.

Operation "Pantaloon". — Sailed HAVELOCK, HARVESTER and HIGHLANDER in accordance with your 1130A/31. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 0710/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operation "Table". — Postponed a further 24 hours. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0806A/2.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Bombing operations. One M/V hit. On Night 1/2, 102 A/C attacked Kiel, 12 attacked Havre, and 2 attacked Naval Units at Brest. One A/C obtained a direct hit on a large M/V in Convoy and near misses were seen on M/Vs in another convoy. (H.Q.B.C. 1515/2.)

Patrols. "Bert" in operation. "Trost" due to take off 2100. (C. in C. Rosyth 1724/2.)

T.B.R. My 1050/30. Cancel T.B.Rs south of 062° N. (A.C.O.S. 1835A/2 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

BRITISH FORTUNE. (Bombed 31/10.) BRITISH FORTUNE (Tanker) set on fire and sunk at 1850/31 off Cromer Light Vessel. Low level bombing 500 ft. Number of bombs 3 direct hits. Help messages sent S.O.S. from boat by torch. Guns mounted 12 pounder, 2 Lewis, 2 Marlin, 2 Hotchkiss. All armament engaged A/C, result not observed. (N.C.S.O. Blyth 0601A/2.)

A/C over Scapa on 1/11. My 1315/1/11. No R.D/F warning was received. Although plots of this E/A approaching were received it was confused with a Mosquito A/C which was expected on return flight from P.R.U. off Norwegian Coast. (A.C.O.S. 1101/2.)

TYRANT (A/P Trawler) PORTHMORNA (British, 596 Tons) attacked. TYRANT reports being attacked by one enemy aircraft at 2250/1st when 8 miles east of St. Govans L/V. No damage no casualties. At 2245 S.S. PORTHMORNA was attacked by same A/C and sustained one dead one slightly wounded. PORTHMORNA has proceeded alone to Cardiff. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1301/2.)

Convoy F.S. Help "Booty" 55° 33' N. 0° 47' E. (LIDDESDALE 1645/2.)

Convoy. Fighters have been despatched to Convoy "Arena". (Rosyth 1728/2.)

Faroes bombed. One enemy A/C dropped 3 bombs in Skaale Fjord at 1802 today. 2 fell on land and one in the Fjord. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1858/2.)

/ST. DOMINICA ...

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - contd.

ST.DOMINICA (Examination Vessel) attacked.

Cancel my 2107/2. Enemy aircraft machine gunned ST. DOMINICA off entrance Aberdeen Harbour at 1905/2. Examination vessel engaged aircraft which made off seawards chased by fighter. Enemy A/C circled and came in again dropped bombs in Nigg Bay. A/C engaged by ships and shore batteries. No casualties or damage. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2348/2.)

THYRA S. (Danish, 1738 Tons) damaged.

Enemy A/C dropped bombs in Yarmouth Roads 1859A, 2018A and 2022A. Straddling Danish S.S. THYRA III at 2022A. Vessel damaged by near miss. Crew abandoned ship and landed at Yarmouth. Tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN with Salvage Officer on board bringing vessel into harbour. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2355A/2, 2357A/2, 2359A/2).

Mining.

Mines off Scarborough.

Mines in sight in 54° 18' N. 0° 10' W. (A/C U.1 1120/2 to H.Q. 18 Group.)

Bristol Channel.

Further minelaying may have occurred night 1/2. All Bristol Channel Ports will be open from 1500 until 2200 today. Ports east of Cardiff, River Parrett Ports, and Watchet will remain closed from 2200/2 until p.m./3 except for local traffic between Bristol and Sharpness. Ships may be undocked from Cardiff (including Penarth) and Barry from 0500/3 and are to be anchored in Cardiff and Barry Roads respectively until 1100 when they may proceed. No ship is to anchor in Walton Bay until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1148A/2)
Exploded Red Mine 1110/2 in 175° 8 cables Flatholm Light. Probably laid 26/27 or 28/29 October. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1501A/2.)
(i) At 1006/2 one Red Mine detonated by Sweeper 123° 2.3 miles Wells Point P.W.S.S. Probably laid 26/27 or 28/29 October. Details. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1506A/2.)

Explosions off Hebrides on 16/10.

My 1200/18 and your 2309/17. I would be grateful to receive the following information.
A. Time interval between explosions.
B. Estimated spacing between explosions.
(R.A.M. 1152/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - contd.

S.N.83 B.
S.N.7 C.

My 1146A/29 October. Supply will not allow of sailing for S.N.83 B. and S.N.7 C. before 7/11 at earliest. Propose therefore to sail a.m./8 and lay as follows.
(i) S.N.83 B. between 062° 50' N. 009° 53' W. and 063° 03' N. 010° 37' 30" W.
(ii) S.N.7 C. between 063° 20' N. 009° 06' W. and 063° 26' 30" N. 009° 17' W.
(R.A.M. 1403/2.)

Mines off Kinnaird Head.

Drifting mines reported 057° 52' N. 000° 47' W. (C. in C. Rosyth 1624/2.)

FOREMOST 45. (Hopper) sunk.

(2) FOREMOST 45 sunk in 51° 21' 6" N. 3° 17' 24" W. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1637A/2)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

R/C of Brest at 1020A/2. Cloudy photographs show three main units apparently present in usual docks. (D.D.I.C. 1506A/2.)

Technical.

S.W.G. and S.G. sets.

My 2218A/2. Destroyers and certain cruisers have no S.W.G. sets. EDINBURGH and certain destroyers have no S.G. sets.
(C. in C. H.F. 2221A/2 to Home Fleet.)

Casualties and Defects.

Workington.

My 0938A/21. Vessels of 1000 tons gross can be accepted in fair weather, 2000 tons in calm weather. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1127A/2.)

VIVIEN.

My 1016. Defect in steering engine has not yet been found. Am proceeding to Humber steering by main engine. E.T.A. Humber Light Vessel 1530. Request tugs meet me there. (VIVIEN 1145/2.)
Cancel my 1145. Temporary repairs have now been effected and consider I should now be able to make Rosyth. Am rejoining convoy.
(VIVIEN 1305A/2.)
Cancel my 1244/2. VIVIEN alright. (WHADDON 1355/2.)

/CATERINA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

CATERINA. OTTILIE.

H.M. Yacht CATERINA was in collision at 0615 today with Grimsby Fishing Trawler OTTILIE about one mile east from Largo Buoy. CATERINA is seaworthy but sustained slight damage to bulwarks. OTTILIE sustained apparently slight damage to stem. OTTILIE sails from Methil at 1230 today for Grimsby with cargo of fish, and it is submitted that the damage may be surveyed at that port. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1158/2.)

SUNFISH.

C. in C. Nore's 1650/28 and C. in C. Rosyth's 1113/29. In view of E.T.A. of F.N.43 at 20 C. Buoy 2330/4, it is intended to sail SUNFISH in tow of CHAMPION and escorted by GARTH at 2100/4. CHAMPION will have orders to burn Navigation Lights until clear of F.N.43, and to adjust speed of R/V with F.S.38 at 0900/5 near 18 C. Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1805/2.)

BRYNMILL. (British, 743 Tons)

BRYNMILL has damaged engine. Have left MALLARD and trawler standing by. Request tugs. Approximate position 2 miles S.W. of Dudgeon Bell buoy. (SLEIPNER 2111A/2.)
BRYNMILL sinking in approximate position 270° 4 miles from Dudgeon bell buoy. Crew being picked up by BASSET. (MALLARD 2228A/22.)
Entire crew of Steamship BRYNMILL picked up by BASSET. Wreck still afloat 275 6 miles from Dudgeon Bell Buoy. Leak in engine room. Consider salvage tug should be sent. (MALLARD 2310A/2)
Immingham departure at 2315 Tug SCOTSMAN to assist S.S. BRYNMILL. (F.O. Humber 2321A/2.)

A.F.D.4.

Until dock has been thoroughly examined and defects made good, it is considered that no further dockings should take place. Refit of dock will commence when ROYAL SOVEREIGN undocks. It may be expected that tanks in A.F.D.4 other than those reported will be found defective. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 2225/2.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

W.P.59 — 4038 escorted by NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE arrived. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 0413/2.)

C.W. Convoys. — Vessels in C.W. convoys bound for Poole may be instructed by S.O. escorts on approaching Nab to steam out of convoy and be passed through examination area first. (C. in C. Nore 1026A/2.)

F.S.35. TOLWORTH. — TOLWORTH missing F.S.No.35. Have swept back 20 miles without results. TURQUOISE reports sighting unidentified ship in vicinity number 7 Buoy at 0800 today. (VERDUN 1241A/2.)

H.X.154. — Met as arranged. No breakdowns or stragglers. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1411A/2 to Opnav.)

Convoys P.Q. and Q.P. — Your 1932A/31. Consider with additional 10 trawlers arrangements can be made accordingly. (A.C.I.C. 1737N/2 to C. in C. H.F.) Until a Russian translation of Mersigs is produced Consigs. is to continue in use with P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. 2. A pamphlet is being forwarded for the use of escorts giving extracts from Consigs which have been translated into Russian and which is in the possession of Russian ships sailing in P.Q.4. (A.C.N.S. T. 2012A/2.)

S.C.49. — Convoy delayed by strong South-Westerly gales, one straggler. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1900Z/2 to Opnav.)

Q.P.2. — Q.P.2 sailed from the mouth of the Dvina L/V 2214C/2. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2130/2.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BARON NEWLANDS (Bombed 29/10).	Your 2318A/1. V.A.C.N.A.'s 2322/30 to Huelva only does not now apply. Ship expected Gibraltar shortly. (V.A.C.N.A., 0629A/2 to Admty).
S.S. PONTET CANET. (French).	Arrival from Setubal in ballast. (R.O. Oporto, 1049Z/2.)
MARSDALE.	S.O.W.P. 1040A/3. (1040A/31 intended)From position (a) pass through positions (b) 030° 30' N., 025° 00' W., (c) 030° 28' N., 019° 57' W. thence to Funchal to complete to capacity with water. Subsequently proceed Gibraltar by direct route. (F.O.C.N.A., 1120A/2 to MARSDALE).
JOAO PESSOA (German).	Sailed for unknown destination (believed to be Nantes) 1/11. (Consul, Bilbao, 1224/2, to Admty).
PONTET CANET, (French).	Arrival 1/11 from Setubal in ballast. (R.O. Oporto, T.H.I., 1230/2 to M.E.W.)

South Atlantic.

Shipping Routes.	Reply to Admty 1100A/30/10. (C. in C. S.A., 0505N/2) See Lion Copy.
NEW YORK.	Overdue shipping. Panama ship NEW YORK due Durban 28/10 from Curacao not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0925B/2 to Admty etc). Cancelled, 0855B/3).
T.L.C. Derelict.	B.A.D. Washington's 1259R/31, derelict in question cannot be T.L.C. 130 but is probably bow section of T.L.C. 103 believed lost overboard from S.S. GER-Y-BRYN on passage from U.K. to Freetown where she arrived on 17/10. (D.T.S.D. (Approved by A.C.N.S. (W))1322A/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

/R.D.F.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

R.D.F. South Atlantic R.D.F. Instructions, Article 4. The Rules for R.D.F. silence apply to R.D.F. Transmission only. Ships fitted with type 79, 279, 280, 281, 282, 284 and 285 should maintain a continuous R.D.F. listening watch for enemy R.D.F. transmissions in any area where it is possible enemy minelayers warships, supply ships or U-boats may be operating, with object of obtaining a bearing of them. (C. in C. S.A., 1515N/2 to S.A. Stn).

Task Force 3. (a) OMAHA, SOMERS. Cancel A.M. 0855/31 and 1243/31. Movements are as originally given in A.M. 2127/30.
(b) MEPHIS, DAVIS, JOUETTE. Amend Opnav's 1911/29. Left Lagos 29/10 direct for position equator 30° W., thence equator 43° W., on 7/11 thence Trinidad 11/11.
(D.O.D. (F) 1723A/2 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

Operation "Bellringer". French Sloop D'IBERVILLE as anticipated will not consent to order convoy to Port Elizabeth and affirms that it only carries foodstuffs destined for people of France. Intend to start boarding operation "Mud" as soon as CARNARVON CASTLE has joined me tomorrow morning. (Weather) (DEVONSHIRE, 1928B/2 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
DEVONSHIRE 1928B /2 is passed to you for information. Have replied concurring. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2320B/2 to C. in C. S.A).
On receipt of signal to carry out operation ordered - (?COLOMBO) assisted by STELLENBERG board BANGKOK. CARNARVON CASTLE assisted by NIGEL board COMPIEGNE. CARTHAGE assisted by TERJE board CAP PADARAN and BELLE ISLE. DEVONSHIRE Watch Fr. Sloop D' IBERVILLE until her attitude is clear and then board CAP TOURANE assisted by STEENBERG. (DEVONSHIRE, 2145B/2 to Force F).
W.D. Note:- Ship referred to as BELLE ISLE should be COMMANDANT DORISE, see 1653/3/11 and 2310/3/11.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TRUANT. Estimate your position 1200B/2 035° 52' 020° 40' E., Amend route to pass through Antikithera Channel thence through Kaso Straits and direct to arrive Sanctuary, A.M./6. Considerable traffic has been reported between Piraeus and Suda Bay and Candia.
(Capt. S.1., 0917B/2 to TRUANT.)
My 0917B/2. Endeavour to pass through 034° 32' 027° 02' at about 0001/5.
(Capt. S.1., 2251B/2 to TRUANT).

CAPO PINO ABBAZIA (Italian). My 1658/23. CAPO PINO from Trieste and ABBAZIA from Salonica expected very shortly.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1119B/2 to S.O.(I) Med).

R.A.C.S.15. Flag Rear Admiral P.L. Vian, D.S.O. as R.A.C. C.S.15 is to be hoisted in NAIAD on his arrival on board P.M. today, 1/11, Saturday.
(C. in C. Med., 1144B/1 to S. & A. Med., Stn).

Force K. Force K out last night with a S.V. Wellington. No luck, nothing at sea in large area covered.
(V.A. Malta, 1205B/2 to C. in C. Med).

Benghazi, Bardia, Gazala bombed. Night Oct. 31/Nov.1. 11 Wellingtons bombed hangars and barracks on North side of Berka Aerodrome, Benghazi. One further Wellington prevented by damage from reaching Benghazi bombed Bardia starting fire in officers' quarters, One F.A.A. Albacore lighted up Gazala North landing ground with flares for 11 Blenheims attacking stores dumps and repair shops there. Further one Albacore on offensive night R/C of area west of Bardia bombed stores dumps 5 miles south of Gambut without visible effect.
Day 1/11 1 Blenheim bombed enemy submarine 80 miles south of Crete bombs falling clear it.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1218/2).

TORCELLO (Italian), Arrived 2/11 from Aegean in ballast bound Basra (Corrupt group).
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1220/2 to S.O. (I) Med).

/Suez Raid.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid. Ref. C.A.F.O. 587. (a) Air Raid night 1/2 (b) high level attack by three possibly four enemy aircraft 2347 - 0340 on Suez Bay and Gulf no illuminants, bright moon (c) H.E. (d) 12 bombs vicinity of Suez, four in Gulf near CARLISLE escorting convoy about 100 miles South Suez (e) No damage or casualties reported (f) one enemy aircraft engaged by A.A. defences Port Said, three enemy aircraft by Suez and one enemy aircraft by CARLISLE results unknown fighters up, no interception. (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1317B/2 to Admty etc).

Merchant ships at Malta. Admiralty's 0012A/29/10. Confirmed remaining ships are sufficient. (C. in C. Med., 1243B/1 to N.O.I.C. Malta).

Russian Ships from Black Sea. My 1259D/27 para. 1. Have been informed Turkish Govt. have now agreed to co-operate. Details not yet given. (Adm. Miles, 1716D/2 to Admty).

Air Operations. Day 2/11. Patrol sighted 0655 hours 1 M/V 3,000 tons 1 D/R 115°. Melita 22 miles, course 070° 10 knots. 0808 hours same Convoy sighted by another Patrol 075°. Melita 35 miles, course 020° Speed 6 knots, 1104 hours attacked by 6 Blenheims 062°. Melita 45 miles.

M/V hit. 24 250 G.P. Bombs dropped. 1 hit on M/V stern causing column of smoke. Heavy A/A from D/R. All returned. Patrol sighted 0915 hours 2 M/Vs. 4,000 tons 1 D/R 41°. Keliba 5 miles course 164° Speed 8 knots.

Naples and Marineo. Night 1/2. Nuisance Raid Naples curtailed owing bad weather. 2 Wellingtons took off, 1 bombed Naples, 1 bombed Marineo, Palermo being under cloud. All bombs seen explode Naples. Fire caused Vigliena Mole. No results observed Marineo. Both Aircraft returned. (H.Q. Malta, 1720/2).

Crimea. Situation (?Forces of) enemy have occupied Backchisari, 35 k/m N.E. of Sevastopol, but as far as I know not Simferopol. Frequent air raids on Sevastopol. Latter town quiet and at present intention is to hold on. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1733C/2 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

R.M. Group
A.A. Units.

Ref. "Overt" 1230/29, your 1832B/30 and Admty. 1931A/20, it is assumed that you are arranging with C. in C. M.E., notice at which R.M. A.A. units should be held to meet possible fleet requirements, so that he can arrange for suitable operational deployment until such eventuality arises.
2. It would appear from first part of "Overt" signal quoted that O.C. R.M. Group does not fully appreciate that until these units are required for special service, they form an integral part of A.A. defences of Middle East under operational control of C. in C. M.E. Admty 2333/4/5/41 refers. You will appreciate that present position both as regards supply -of A.A. equipment and trained personnel does not permit of either being employed anywhere except in operational role.
3. You may consider it desirable to make this point clear to O.C.R.M. Group, M.N.B.D.O.
4. Para, 2 of "Overt's" 1230/29 is being dealt with separately.
(D. of L.D., 1938A/2 to C. in C. Med).

THRASHER.

Proceed through following positions 031° 30' 018° 00' 031° 30' 016° 29' and 045° Ras Khara, 18 to patrol within 25 miles Ras Zarug during daylight/6 thence through 034° 30' 014° 42' to Malta as ordered by Capt. (S) 10.
(Capt. S.1., 2231B/2 to THRASHER)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Aden Force. Following ships of Red Sea Force will be addressed as the Aden Force and will from noon today 2/11 come under operational control of N.O.I.C.Aden :- INDUS, HINDUSTAN, SAVORGNAN-DE-BRAZZA, RATNAGIRI, NETRAVATI, BATHURST, LISMORE.
(F.O.C.Red Sea Force 1122Z/2 to N.O.I.C.Aden, Red Sea Force.).

Delays to U.S.Ships. U.S.Maritime Commission complain of delays at Mombasa and Aden to their ships awaiting orders. Presumably delays at Aden are due to routeing instructions being required and ships being held until berths are available in Suez area. Request your remarks concerning delays at Mombasa. (D.T.D. 2005A/2 to C.in C.E.I.).

China.

FRANCOIS L.D.
PIERRE L.D.
LOUIS L.D.
(FORMALHAUT)
(French).

Following information has been passed to British Mission Washington. Saigon reported that FRANCOIS L.D. sailed ostensibly for Kobe on 15/8 with 7000 tons of rubber, Master instructed not to call Madagascar or Dakar. Please ascertain (1) route followed by vessel.(2) Where she bunkered en route. (3) Further details of cargo. FRANCOIS L.D. bunkered at Manila on 16/7. By bunkering Manila Louis Dreyfus ships can reach Casablanca via Cape or Cape Horn without fuelling. Believed likely PIERRE L.D. now passed Sunda Strait for Saigon, will carry further 6000 tons rubber which will be ready for shipment to Germany via France during this month. Endeavour keep us informed of her movements and in particular whether she bunkers Manila. Matter is of utmost importance as 7000 tons carried by FRANCOIS L.D. represents one-third of estimated present German deficiency of raw rubber.

/FORMALHAUT.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

FRANCOIS L.D.
PIERRE L.D.
LOUIS L.D.
(FORMALHAUT)
(French).
-Contd.

FORMALHAUT, which is LOUIS L.D. under new name, sailed Dakar for Madagascar on 26/10 in convoy escorted by two Submarines and a sloop. C.in C. China please inform N.E.I. C.in C. S.A. pass to S.O. Force G on arrival.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1636A/2 to C.in C. China, E.I.,A.W.I., S.A. etc.).

America and West Indies.

O.N. 27.

Serial 8, disperse Convoy after passing 055° W.
(U.S.C.N.O. 0035/2 to Comtask [illegible] Unit. 4.1.15).

Suspicious Tanker reported 21/10.

My 1612Z/31. N.C.S.O. St.Johns N.F. reports SANTA PRINCESSA is possibly new Portuguse Fishing Trawler which sailed from St. Johns fishing to Greenland banks 24/8. Owing to weather is now likely to be coming South.
(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 0351Z/2 to Admty.).

ABBEYDALE.

R.A.S.A.D's 1923Z/27. Oiler ABBEYDALE will be given quick docking at Bermuda but no other defect can be taken in hand and docking is not to exceed 48 hours maximum. ABBEYDALE is to load for Bermuda on arrival at Trinidad. N.O.I.C. Trinidad is requested to sail ABBEYDALE as soon as ready reporting E.T.A. at Bermuda as soon as possible.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 0942Q/2 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad,etc.).

BURNHAM.

My 1034R/30. BURNHAM defects satisfactory, ship has sailed for Halifax. (B.A.R.M. 1014R/2 to Admty.).

/CALIFORNIA.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

CALIFORNIA. Your 2110/30. Additional alterations approved will delay CALIFORNIA's sailing from Boston to about 17/11. (B.A.R.M. 1122R/2 to Admty.) See 1759A/2.

Reporting of convoy positions. My 1529/1. Comtaskforce 4 appears to have misunderstood Cinclant's orders on this subject. Cinclant's 0315/2 to Comtaskforce 4 which states that Admty. 1149/13/10 (573AZ) does apply to both U.S. and Canadian escorts should clarify the situation. (B.A.D. 1155R/2 to C.C.N.F.).

O.N.31. Serial 3 Air report indicates Convoy ahead of schedule, new M.O.M.P. time 0900Z/4. (Opnav, 1245/2 to Comtask Unit 4.1.7.).

Corvette refits. Your 1334R/1. Following are approx. proposed dates arriving Charleston: EYEBRIGHT 14/11, ARROWHEAD, SNOWBERRY 26/11. MAYFLOWER, early December on completion of DIANTHUS. BITTERSWEET on completion of EYEBRIGHT. (C.C.N.F. 1336Z/2 to B.A.R.M.).

T.C.15
C.T.6. Your 1943/31/10. Para 3 confirmed. (B.A.D. 1531R/2, to Admty.).

Wabana convoys. C.N.F.F. 1509Z/1. Concur under present circumstances. Consider however that decision as to whether any particular ship or ships loading in Newfoundland should proceed in regular convoy assembly or be sailed to join a passing convoy should be made by C.C.N.F. in order that as much shipping time as possible can be saved. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1531Z/2, to Admty.).

CALIFORNIA
CATHAY. Your 1906/1. (N.T. in W.D.). Yes. Acting-Captain Tuck will bring CALIFORNIA home to U.K. where she will return in accordance with A.M.1657/21/10 before relieving CATHAY on S. Atlantic Station. (D.O.D.(F) 1759A/2 to B.A.R.M.).

/SURCOUF.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

SURCOUF. Following instructions issued with concurrence of Adm. Com. F.N.F.L.
(1) When ready for sea B.A.R.M. is requested to arrange for sailing of F.S. SURCOUF to New London to carry out full work up.
(2) On completion of working up submarine should be sailed to Bermuda.
(3) C.in C. A.W.I. and C.in C. S.A. are requested to route ship to Capetown via Trinidad. On arrival in S.A. Station SURCOUF is to come uner operational control of C.in C. S.A.
(4) Intended that submarine should operate from Capetown with object of destruction of enemy units using refuelling areas, normally in South Atlantic but she may be similarly employed should the occasion arise in Indian Ocean as arranged between C.in C. E.I. and C.in C. S.A.
(5) Intended ship should refit at Singapore when necessary.
(A.C.N.S.(F) (P.D. 0471/41) 1941A/2 to B.A.R.M. etc.).

S.C.54. Recommended Route, concur.
(Opnav, 2230/2 to Admty.).

Australia and New Zealand.

OISEAU DES ILES (French). Arrival 2/11.
(Suva, 0645M/2, to D.of S.T.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARIGUANI (torpedoed 26/10). — Arrival 0645 DUNCAN, JONQUIL, HELIOTROPE, CAMPION, ARIGUANI. (F.O.C.N.A. 0600A/2 to Admty.etc.).

Submarines Reported.

2323 G.C.T/1. — R.D.F. bearing 2323 G.C.T./1 indicates submarine approx. 4720 N 4900 W. (Opnav 0312/2 to Admty.etc.).

1410 — Am over enemy submarine in 53.55 N 10.28 W. (A/C F., T.O.R. 1346/2 to 15 Group.). Am investigating air bubbles in 53.88 N? 10.24 W. (A/C K.1 1410/2 to 15 Group). If fuel permits detach two vessels preferably destroyers to hunt U/B reported by A/C in 53° 55' N 10° 28' W at 1410/2. A/C will co-operate. (C.in C. W.A. 1459A/2 to ROCHESTER).

Estimated approximate positions. (D.D.I.C. 1417A/2 1428A/2).

Submarines Attacked.

By GORLESTON VERBENA 1/11. — 0.3.10. At 1650N/1 GORLESTON and VERBENA attacked and probably destroyed U/B in 048° 35' N 025° (?) 15" W. At 0730N/2 U/B sighted on surface chased and result unknown. Re-sighted 1030, chase given but contact not established. At 1310N during hunt one Focke Wulf aircraft approached from N.E. while in 046° 4' N 024° 36' W. Am rejoining convoy. (LANDGUARD 1428Z/2 to C.in C. W.A.).

By A/C. — Am over enemy submarine in 54.30 N. 12.10 W. Periscope only was sighted. Have attacked with depth charges. No hits. (A/C S.2. 1515/2, 1545/2 to 15 Group).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C. in C. Home Fleet sailed from Scapa for Hvalfiord this evening in KING GEORGE V with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 6 destroy

Departure of raiders believed imminent.

Various pointers tend to confirm the impendin departures of the ADMIRAL SCHEER and possibly a raider from the Baltic. (ADMIRAL SCHEER wa not seen in floating dock at Hamburg on 25/10 Owing to the weather P.R.U. reconnaissance wa not possible today.
P.35 was ordered at 1701A to proceed to patro near 59° 18' N. 4° 23' E. to attack and repor enemy cruisers and above and merchant ships i company with cruisers and above.

M.T.B. and M.G.B. operation.

3 M.T.B's and 2 M.G.B's from Dover attacked an escorted enemy convoy off Gris Nez at 2217. A large Merchant ship was torpedoed by M.T.B. 218 and was either sunk or beached. The M.G.B subsequently engaged the escort vessels (1 fas vessel, possibly a minesweeper, one trawler an some 4 R. boats) and M.G.B. 42 was damaged and returned to Dover. M.G.B. 43 was also damaged and was towed back to harbour on 4/11.

British Air Operations.

All operations by Bomber Command last night and today were cancelled on account of bad weather.

Spitfires of Fighter Command which attacked shipping off the Cherbourg Peninsula today damaged or sank an E-boat.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.N.1. called for help at 1800 near Aberdeen. No damage has been reported.

VERSATILE reported Convoy F.N. 43 being bombed at 1354 today in 51° 52' N., 1° 35' E. (off Harwich). No damage is reported.

Mining.

Liverpool was closed this morning until 0815A/4.

Patrol vessel OUZEL was blown up and completely disentegrated at 1212 near Mablethorpe.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer".

At 0759B today DEVONSHIRE reported that the convoy of 5 French ships escorted by D'IBERVILLE was stopped in 37° 43' S. 30° 16' E. and that boarding was in progress, D'IBERVILLE having refused to order the convoy to proceed to Port Elizabeth. The French merchant ships attempted to scuttle and CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN put their engines out of action. By 1315B COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK were on their way to Port Elizabeth at 7 knots, escorted by COLOMBO and NIGEL; and COMMANDANT DORISE was proceeding to Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA. At 2310B DEVONSHIRE WAS escorting CAP TOURANE at 2½ increasing to 5 knots and at 1601B DEVONSHIRE reported that CARTHAGE was taking CAP PADARAN in tow. At 1648B orders were sent for the ships to be brought to East London. D'IBERVILLE, after shadowing for a while was last seen steering westward at 13 knots.

/Fuelling.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Fuelling.

The Admiralty have replied to C. in C. S.A.'s message of 30/10 re the insecurity of St. Helena as fuelling port for ships of limited endurance between Freetown and the Cape. There are advantages in Pointe Noire for vessels of small endurance, but when circumstances permit C. in C. S.A. is to consider stationing an oiler at a sea R/V within reasonable distance of St. Helena, which could be ordered there when required to provide fuel under the lee of the island.

Mediterranean.

Last night, 4 naval aircraft attacked the sulphur factory at Licata, obtaining hits on it and possibly on the power station. A successful attack was made by 22 Wellingtons on Castel Benito aerodrome.

Operations by S/M's.

C. in C. Med. reports that UROZ sank a 1,500 ton southbound escorted merchant ship at 0750/22/10 in 35° 45' N. 11° 6' E. and a 4,000 ton merchant ship at anchor in 35° 50' N. 11° 5' E. at 1834/22/10; the latter ship was possibly already damaged by Blenheims.
URSULA obtained two hits on a southbound merchant ship in convoy at 0800/18/10 in 35° 25' N., 11° 39' E., the ship apparently sinking later. From 1419 to 1429/22/10 she bombarded two bridges in 38° 0' N. 16° 8' E. at 1500 yards' range.

Red Sea.

The Suez Escort Force has been reinforced during the full moon period and consists of CARLISLE, AVON VALE, ERIDGE and 5 sloops. The Flag of F.O.R.S. has been transferred to Suez.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA grounded this afternoon at the entrance to Kingston, Jamaica. Both ships got off during this night. INDOMITABLE will have to dock for examination.

Experience is showing that the peace and plenty of the U.S.A. is unsettling for ships' companies after the rigours of more active war zones.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.C.52. At 0328Z BROADWAY reported that Convoy S.C.52 had been attacked off the Straits of Belle Isle and that 2 ships (S.S. FLYNDERBORG and GRETAVALE) were torpedoed, at 1558Z she reported thick fog and that the convoy had scattered and returned to Sydney C.B.

S.S. LIBERIAN was attacked today in 4° 31' N. 1° 54' E. but eluded the torpedoes.

A ship was reported to have been torpedoed at 0730 in 22° 50' S. This was apparently S.S. BRADFORD CITY.

Convoy T.C.5. Torpedoes were sighted at 0835 G.C.T. today by Task Group 1.4.3 escorting convoy C.T.5.

Convoy O.S.10. Enemy aircraft this evening were homeing probably 6 U-boats on to a convoy which from the bearing appears to be O.S.10.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Spitzbergen. Your 1553/28 and 1722/30/10. Until present situation clears I do not intend taking any further action.
(C. in C. H.F. 0921A/3 to Adty.)

Promulgation of W.A.Rules restricting Gunfire. Naval Air Stations Secret and Confidential Memorandum No.225 indicates existence of Special Rules for restricting A/A gunfire within Western Approaches Command.
(2) As ships of other commands have often to operate or pass through this area I consider it most important that the rules if established should be generally promulgated by C.A.F.O. or "A" message and that S.P. 02323 (2) are amended.
(C. in C. H.F. 1501A/3 to Adty.)

NEWPORT. My 2219A/15 Oct. and 1244A/23 Oct. NEWPORT is allocated to Liverpool in place of BROADWATER. Allocation to Londonderry is cancelled.
(C. in C. W.A. 1534A/3.)

Movements.

P.37. Intend to sail P.37 escorted by WHITE BEAR for Clyde 1200A/4. E.T.A. 0800/5.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 0929A/3.)

KING GEORGE V. VICTORIOUS KENT BERWICK SUFFOLK. Expect to arrive in KING GEORGE V. with VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK, SUFFOLK and 6 destroyers in company at 0950N/5th. Request gate 1050N. Concur cruisers for whom no berths are available in harbour anchoring North West H. of D.1. (C. in C. H.F. 0949A/3 to A.C.I.C.)
Scapa departure C. in C. in H.F. in KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, BERWICK, SUFFOLK, KENT, SOMALI, MATABELE, PUNJABI, ASHANTI, OFFA, ORIBI.
(A.C.O.S. 1732A/3.)
2 hours 20 minutes early on my 0949A/3.
Request Engey Light 0645 to 0745N/5th.
(C. in C. H.F. 1921A/3 to A.C.I.C.)

AUSONIA. MONTCLARE. HIGHLAND PRINCESS. HILARY. Admiralty's 1401A/25 and 1616A/30. Request I may be informed when AUSONIA, MONTCLARE and HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready to sail in company.
(C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3. Subject to confirmation that MONTCLARE can comply with Admiralty's 2149A/26 AUSONIA, MONTCLARE and HILARY (Latter for Southampton) and S.S. HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready for sea at 0800A/5th.
(S.O.W.P. 1830A/3.)

/DUKE OF YORK ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

DUKE OF YORK. Scapa arrivals DUKE OF YORK, ESCAPADE, TARTAR. (A.C.O.S. 1609A/3.)

ALAUNIA ASCANIA. My 1139A/27/10. No further information. (S.O.W.P. 1645/3 to Adty.)

Information for LAMERTON, etc. RORQUAL escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE Northbound in Irish Sea. May be met during the night. (C. in C. W.A. 1710A/3 to LAMERTON, etc.)

ARETHUSA. Your 1240 to C. in C. Rosyth. Time of sailing not approved, sail 0630/5th and proceed to Scapa so as to arrive before dark. Carry out 4 inch gun trials when East of May Island speed in Firth as laid down in R.S.C.M.70. Fighter protection will be arranged. (C. in C. Rosyth 1715/3 to ARETHUSA.)

ALBURY. When ALBURY is ready for sea request you will sail her to Thorshavn Faroes to join S.O.M/S Flot. 4. She should be sailed in convoy to May Island, thence independently to Aberdeen for coal, thence as arranged by N.O.I.C. Aberdeen. (C. in C. Nore 1746A/3 to N.O.I.C. Humber.)

TARTAR. ESKIMO. Proceed passing Switha 1730 tomorrow to Hvalfjord. On arrival act under orders of Capt.(D) 6. You will be required to embark ratings and mail before sailing. (R.A.D. H.F. 1803A/3 to TARTAR, ESKIMO.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. My 1826/1. Will now undock at 1500/6. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1851/3.)

EDINBURGH. SHEFFIELD. Arrived F.O.C. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH and SHEFFIELD 1100. (A.C.I.C. 1906N/3.)

Operations.

Exercise L.3. Admiralty's 1907A/1st. Minimum number required for L.3 3 is 26. Only 10 ratings now remain to C.Q.2. Request therefore V.A.C.T.C. release 26 ratings for period of L.3 from a.m./10th to p.m./13th. (C.Q.2 1220A/3 to V.A.C.T.C.)

/Asdic sweep ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - contd.

Asdic sweep. Is to be carried out by escort by day under normal Asdic and visibility conditions. (C.in C. W.A. 1529A/3 to BLACK SWAN.)

KENYA. KENYA, BEDOUIN and INTREPID are to remain at Seidisfiord in readiness to proceed on patrol in Iceland - Faroes passage. (C. in C. H.F. 1601A/3 to C.S. 10., Adty.)

Operation E.L postponed. Patrol off Haugesund. (A) Operation E.L. postponed. Proceed to patrol in vicinity of position 059° 18' N. 004° 23' E. Object to attack and report enemy cruisers and above.
(B) If you need to withdraw do not proceed North of 059° 50' N. unless absolutely necessary. (F.O.S. 1701A/3 to P.35.)
After passing 062° N. 002° E. proceed through 061° 46' N. 004° 08' E. thence keeping about 18 miles off the coast to patrol position ordered in my 1701A/3. R.A.(D) H.F. pass to Capt. (D) 6.
(F.O.S. 1836A/3 to P.35.)

British Air Activity.

T.B.R. My 1050/30th October. Cancel T.B.Rs south of 65° N. (A.C.O.S. 1201A/3 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols. P.R.U. of Kristiansand, Oslo, Copenhagen in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1239/3.)
"Bert" and "South Stab" in operation.
-(C. in C. Rosyth 1945/3.)

A/C to M/V signalling. Pass to N.C.S.Os. Masters of Merchant Ships are to be informed that aircraft wishing to obtain the names of single Merchant Ships encountered in the Western Approaches will flash the International signal "S C" (what is the name of your vessel?) and Merchant Ships are to reply by flashing their signal letters.
This procedure simplifies signalling and saves time, but provides no guarantee of the friendly character of the aircraft and A/A precautions are not repetition not to be relaxed merely because "S C" is received.
(D.S.D. 1642A/3.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S.36 BRYNMILL (British 743 Tons) damaged. MARIE DAWN (French, 2157 Tons) sunk.

S.S. BRYNMILL in F.S.36 damaged by 5 near miss bombs at 1855/2 in position 4 miles 210° from 59A buoy. All of crew saved by BASSET and being landed at Harwich. Ship is presumed to have sunk about 5 miles West of East Dudgeon Bell Buoy. S.S. MARIE DAWN damaged apparently in same attack and sank 2 miles S.W. of H.2 Buoy. All of crew saved by M/S Trawlers and landed at Humber. (C. in C. Nore. 1049A/3.)
Total crew S.S. MARIE DAWN landed Grimsby. Master states vessel bombed and damaged by near misses at 1645/2 between H.2 and H.3 Buoys and sank 2 miles S.W. of H.2 Buoy.
(F.O. Humber 1220A/3.)

Faroes bombed on 2/11.

Single enemy aircraft attacked Skaalefjord 1800/2. Bombs presumably aimed at shipping fell on east shore. No casualties or damage. (O.C. Troops, Faroes 1200/3.)

CALIPH (Trawler) sunk on 2/11.

The CALIPH understood to have been attacked and sunk by 2 German aircraft 10 miles south of the Old Head of Kinsale between 1730 and 1830/2. (ARCHER 1309/3.)

F.N.43.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy "Pilot" position 51° 52' N. 1° 55' E. (VERSATILE 1354/3.)

Convoy.

Help "Mission" 56° 57' N. 1° 56' W. 019° - 8.
(? Origin 1800/3 to Rosyth W/T.)

Shetlands.

At 0635 today an unidentified aircraft approached Shetlands from Eastwards, Aircraft remaining over an area 30 miles in diameter with centre 15 miles West of Muckle Flugga for 25 minutes. Then circled, plotted position of MINERVE and EQUERRY (090° out Skerries 8 miles) from 0731 till 0735. Aircraft then circled over SULLOI-VOE and YELL SOUND from 0745 until 0755 before flying out S. Eastward. Last plotted 45 miles East of Bressay at 0806. Aircraft was plotted and heard but not seen. Estimated height throughout 2500 to 4000 feet. Cloud 10/10 at 2500 feet. I consider this was an enemy aircraft which was either uncertain of its position and endeavouring to make a (?landing) at daylight or enemy had prior intelligence of S/M R/Vs which have recently all been in the vicinity Muckle Flugga, Bressay and Out Skerries. (A.C.O.S. 1810A/3.)

/Convoy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - contd.

Convoy F.N.40
OCANA
(Dutch Tanker, 6256 Tons.)
Damaged on 2/11.

Damaged by Bomb at 1746/2 off Spurn Point. Proceeding to port for repairs. (D.S.790.)

Mining.

Liverpool.

Your 2021A/2. Port of Liverpool including Q.Z.S.298 will be closed until 0815A/4th. Adjust speed accordingly. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1012A/3 to ROCKINGHAM and 1524/3 to HESPERUS.)

S.N.83 A.
S.N.7 C.

R.A.(M)'s 1403A/3. Concur. (2) R.A.(D) is requested to provide one destroyer. (C. in C. H.F. 1133A/3.)

OUZEL.
(Patrol Vessel) sunk.

OUZEL blown up at 1212 half mile E. of Mablethorpe. No sign of any part of Vessel or Survivors. (F.O. Humber 1231A/3.)

White Sea Approaches.

Your 1833/20/10. As a first action it is desired to establish whether the Russians have any minelayers available in North Russia and if so whether they can lay British Mark Nineteen mines or be adapted to do so. Brief details of these mine units are as follows. (V.C.N.S. 1232A/3 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Sweep off Faroes.

My 2245A/30. S.O. 4th M.S.F. intends operating from 0730 until 1900 tomorrow and until 1300/5, returning each day to Fugle Fiord. Request air protection. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1642A/3.)

Bristol Channel.

Exploded Red Mine 1145/3 017° 3.2 miles Watchet Pier Light.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1750A/3 and 0950A/4.)

WELSHMAN.
MANXMAN.

WELSHMAN and MANXMAN are to embark outfits of Mark XVII mines with flooders and 200 fathom moorings as soon as possible and are to be sailed for Scapa when ready. (V.C.N.S.1916A/3 to R.A.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

SCHEER and Possible Raider. At 0710/3 a new German W/T service on 7180 kc/s replaced the N. Sea Operational wave of 7130 kc/s and has amalgamated N. Sea, South Norwegian and Baltic Stations. Similar procedure was introduced immediately prior to the sailing of LUTZOW in June 1941 and the two Battle Cruisers in 1940. This reorganisation following other pointers tends to confirm the impending departures of SCHEER and possibly a Raider from the Baltic. (D.D.I.C. 1650A/3.)
My 1650A/3. P.R.U. unable to carry out R/C today owing to weather. No further information, but weather on Norwegian Coast is improving. (D.D.I.C. 2344A/3.)

Navigational.

Sheringham Buoy. Extinguished and adrift. (HOLDERNESS 2250A/3.)

Ice at Archangel. See Shipping.

Technical.

H/F D/F gear in A.class Destroyers. Admiralty 1327/1/11. Require all A. class eventually fitted H/F D/F also R.D.F. type 271 in lieu of director and rangefinder. Proposals. (C. in C. W.A. 1149/3 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)

Setting of Torpedoes for shallow running. Your 1709B/24/10. As emergency measure, proceed as follows. Details. (D.T.M. 1950A/3 to Ad. Miles.)

R.D.F. As an aid to R.D.F. identification the following procedure is to be carried out by Home Fleet vessels when a R.D.F. contact is obtained and the tactical situation is involved and warrants the use of W/T. Details. (C. in C. H.F. 2218A/2.)

Casualties and Defects.

THYRA ex. III. (Bombed 2/11.) Arrival tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN towing S.S. THYRA III at 0044A.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0046A/3.)

NOTTINGHAM. Engine defects in motor vessel NOTTINGHAM. Trial postponed. Propose to carry out programme a.m. 4th November. (? KINGFISHER 1405A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/BASSET

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects. - Contd.

BASSET. Departure Tug DIVERSION to assist H.M.T. BASSET vicinity North Cockle buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1530A/3.) Arrival tug DIVERSION with H.M.T. BASSET in tow. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1810A/3.)

CORMARSH. Departure tug KENIA to assist S.S. CORMARSH. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2005A/3.)

CAPE ARGONA. Your 1006A/3. Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 2350A/3.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Escorts of Ocean Convoys. My 1542A/30. Paragraph 1 (A) add:- Names of ships detailed to be reported to authorities concerned. Paragraph 1 (B) delete :- "Unless ocean escort is provided by Greenock group". (C. in C. W.A. 1010A/3.)

Independent Ships. Homeward and Outward Independents. Names and P.C.S. (D.T.D. 1124A/3.)

H.X.155. Met as arranged. No stragglers. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D. 1140A/3 to Opnav.)

F.N.43. Your 0954A/3. M.L.146 S.O., 145, 149, 150, 151, 152. (N.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1310A/3 to C. in C. Nore.)

P.Q. Convoys. Soviet Authorities can not give at present fighter protection to ships northward of 68° North. Hours of daylight will soon be few but recommended as general principle that inward convoys should reach 68° N. at daylight and outward convoys at dark. This would entail passing through S/M area to northward in darkness. Recommended that point 'Z' in every case shall be 68° N., that British local A/S escorts shall meet incoming convoys during daylight on day previous to arrival at point 'Z' so as to provide additional escort in submarine area. C.S.1 and Russian Admiral concur. Admiralty pass to C. in C. Home Fleet. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1444C/5 to Adty.)

/GRASLIN ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

GRASLIN MARIE. Have searched for two missing ships pendant T 11 L GRASLIN M 15 L MARIE 20 miles in rear of convoy. Ships not found. (SLEIPNER 1540/3.) Proceed to Sheerness forthwith. Report present position. (C. in C. Nore 1727A/3 to SLEIPNER.)

P.Q.3. No Ocean Escort is available for Convoy P.Q.3. (C. in C. H.F. 1601A/3.) P.Q.3 is not to sail until ordered by Adty. (A.C.N.S. H. 2318A/3 to A.C.I.C.)

Ice at Archangel. Ice report number 5. Ice thickens. Escorts can only proceed in river with assistance of tugs but are in no danger. Minimum temperature at night only 0028 degrees F. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and F.O. 10th C/S. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1732C/3.)

W.S.12 Z. W.S.14. It is intended that ROYAL SOVEREIGN and RAMILLIES should act as ocean escort for W.S.12 Z leaving U.K. 12/11 and W.S.14 leaving U.K. 30/11 respectively.
2. Owing to their limited endurance it will be necessary to route these ships south of Ireland (R) at economical speed completing to full stowage of fuel at Milford Haven and joining the convoy about the northern limit of the North Atlantic command.
3. After joining convoy battleship to steam as economically as possible at convoy speed, consequent delay in raising steam for full speed being accepted.
4. Under normal conditions with ship recently docked it is expected that passage to Freetown could be made without refuelling, but to allow for contingencies, an oiler should be available in the vicinity of the Cape Verde Is. By the time of arrival in vicinity Azores battleship should know whether fuelling at sea will be necessary and is to report accordingly.
5. C. in C. S.A. is requested to make the necessary preliminary arrangements to meet these requirements.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1836A/3.)

Q.P.2. Cancel my 2130C/2. Convoy delayed 24 hours owing to bad weather.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2345C/2.)

MOST SECRET.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French shipping. Passings 2/11. Westward PORT DE BUUC, ST. MAXIME, both full. Eastward, OUED TIFLET, RLE ROUSSE, DINOIS. All full, SURVILLE in Ballast. (V.A.C.N.A. 0917A/3 to Admty. for M.E.W.).

CLYDE. CLYDE is available for patrol in Bay of Biscay west area leaving Gibraltar 9/11. Request area desired. Your 2249A/13/8, (2249/15 intended) refers. (F.O.C.N.A. 1306A/3 to Admty.).

O.21. Unless area is required by 10th S/M Flot. intend to sail Netherlands S/M . O.21 9/11 for patrol in area 040° 50' 012° 50' between Port Drepana 130- 40. O.21 will return to Gibraltar 28/11. Admiralty pass to F.O.(3). (F.O.C.N.A. 1310A/3, to C.in C. Med.).

STAD HAARLEM damaged. Your 0946A/30 and 41 (?) to Admty. During gale 2/11 STAD HAARLEM dragged buoy S moorings and grounded. Fear number 2 and 4 hold are (?holed). Diver will make examination as soon as weather moderates. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1445/3 to F.O.C.N.A.).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 0815 Armed Trawler L'AJACCIENNE, S.S. ALGERIE deck cargo casks GRAND QUEVILLY deck cargo twelve red cross vehicles trawler TACIANA westbound. (S.O.I.Gib. 1711A/3 to C.in C. Med. etc.).

INDRA. Have you any news of Panamanian INDRA due Huelva from Barry? (D.T.D. 1735A/3 to S.O.I.Gib.).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. -Contd.

Enemy shipping

List A.A. number 6 arrived Valencia from Cartagena with iron ore 31st. List B.B. number 2 arrived Valencia in ballast 1st. (F.O.C.N.A. 2208A/3 to OLYMPUS).
W.D. Note. According to F.O.C.N.A. 0938/31/8 No. 6 should be Italian MAURO CROCE and No.2. is German HANS SCHMIDT.

Gibraltar.

There were 5 day raids and 10 night raids during October. Casualties, civil damage. (details). (Gov. Gib. No. T.O.O./3).

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer" boarding.

Convoy is stopped in 037° 43' S 030° 16' E. Boarding is in progress. Scuttling has been attempted. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE. 0759B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown). Ships in the convoy:- CAP PADARAN 8009 tons. CAP TOURANE, 8009 tons. COMPIEGNE, 9,986 tons. COMMANDANT DORISE, 5529 tons. BANGKOK 8,056 tons. Sailed from Tamatave 24/10 for France. (D.O.R. 3/11).

3 ships sabotaged.

My 0759B. No ships sunk. CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN engines out of action. COMMANDANT DORISE steering gear blown up, hand gear is being rigged. How many tugs are available? One is required for CAP PADARAN. French Sloop D'IBERVILLE is still here. Important to maintain air A/S patrol. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE, 0945B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

COMPIEGNE BANGKOK proceeding.

My 0945B. COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK proceeding to Port Elizabeth at 11 knots escorted by COLOMBO and NIGEL. (DEVONSHIRE 1150B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/COMMANDANT.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

COMMANDANT DORISE. My 1150B/3. COMMANDANT DORISE now proceeding Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA. S of A. uncertain owing to disabled steering arrangement. CARNARVON CASTLE report progress as necessary. (DEVONSHIRE, 1315B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

CAP PADARAN CAP TOURANE My position 037° 36' S. 030° 25' E. course 262° 8 knots, shadowing French sloop D'IBERVILLE 13 miles astern. CARTHAGE is taking CAP PADARAN in tow. CAP TOURANE expected to proceed at 1730 and will remain in company with CARTHAGE. Intend to return to CARTHAGE at 1900 if situation unchanged. Passed to Admiralty for information. (DEVONSHIRE 1601B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Ships to proceed East London. Authorities have agreed to vessels being brought into Port. All 5 vessels are to be brought into East London. Escorts are to report (1) probable E.T.A. and amend subsequently as necessary (2) number and category of passengers (3) nature of cargo (4) any other items of interest.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1648B/3 to Force F.).

COMMANDANT DORISE, cargo sabotage. Your 1648B 3. (i) A.M./5 with COMMANDANT DORISE and FLORIDA. (ii) 1st Class one man, wife, child, 3rd class 5 men. (iii) Cargo tons dead weight for ? Marseilles leather 260 Wax 65 Graphite 420 Rice 400 Bark Extract 145 Ricine Oil Grain 110 Mica 75. For Dakar, Coffee 300, Tinned food 530, also General cargo. Crew offered passive resistance, prize crew taken over all duties. Steering gear damaged by explosion and steering very erratic so tugs are essential on arrival. (CARNARVON CASTLE 1901Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Identity of French ships. Your 2145/2 states F.N.L.Y. CAP VARELLA was one of 2 vessels (? to be) boarded by CARTHAGE. This name does not appear in other messages. Should F.N.L.Y. (CAP VARELLA) have read FNYE (COMMANDANT DORISE) which is mentioned in your 0945/3 and your 1315/3?. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1653B/3 to DEVONSHIRE).
Your 1653B/3. Yes. For FNLY (CAP VARELLA) read FNYE (COMMANDANT DORISE). (ii) CARTHAGE now making good 6 knots. Am escorting CAP TOURANE present speed 2½ knots increasing to 5 knots. (DEVONSHIRE, 2310B/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Repair of damaged engines. Your 0945B/3. It can be expected that replace parts for damaged engines are hidden on board. Admty 2222/15/3/1941. to C. in C. S. A. refers. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1843A/3 to DEVONSHIRE).

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

Situation. "Bellringer" situation at 1315B/3. COMPIEGNE and BANGKOK proceeding to Port Elizabeth at 7 knots escorted by COLOMBO and NIGEL. COMMANDANT DORISE proceeding Port Elizabeth escorted by CARNARVON CASTLE and FLORIDA speed uncertain, CAP TOURANE and CAP PADARAN engines out of action. No further information regarding D'IBERVILLE. (C.in C. S.A. 1941N/3 to Admty.).

French W/T Report. Monitoring Station has intercepted from ship D'IBERVILLE P/L message via Diego-Suarez radio. Concerns interception of convoy near Madagascar and mentions four cruisers and six patrol vessels. Full text will be passed later. (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa, 2238Z/3 to Admty.).

NEW YORK. Overdue shipping cancel my 0925/2, NEW YORK arrived Durban. (S.O.I.Capetown 0855B/3 to Admty. etc.).

AQUITANIA. Your 1830/2 para 2. Consider Union Gov. will accept disadvantages and do their best to overcome them but rapidity of turn round will depend on weather and ship might have to lie exposed in Table Bay for (?some) days partly loaded with troops. (ii). C.in C. E.I. 0520/3 para 2. Request boiler cleaning be carried out at Colombo.(N.O.I.C.Simonstown, 1036B/3 to Admty.).

ANTWERP MALINES. Your 2133A/12/9. Endurance of 2000 miles by ANTWERP and MALINES can only be obtained at speeds of 13.5 and 10.5 knots respectivsly. (C.in C. S.A. 1411N/3 to Admty.).

Petrol at C.Verde Is. Spanish sailing ship name unknown now anchored at Petmolume Sal Island loaded with Aviation Petrol for Lati. May be sent to Santa Maria Sal before discharge to shore. (B.C. Sierra Leone 1517/3 to Admty.).

/EGRET.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

EGRET. One cutter to fuel Ponta Delgada on return voyage in order that one vessel in escort group may be ready for any emergency. (EGRET 1712N/4 to C.in C. W.A.).

W.S.12. Position 3/11. W.S. 12 arrived and all ships provisioning. ~~cargo.~~ ORMONDE (B) disembarking and discharging cargo. HIGHLAND BRIGADE (B and C) disembarks fuels and sails for Plate 4/11. STRATHNAVER sailed for Port Elizabeth. (S.S.T.O.Durban 1726Z/3 to D.of S.T.).

Naval Units at Dakar. Dakar 1/11. Eleven Submarines are at Dakar. B.2. Source Petty Officer. The following cap ribbons have recenty been seen - GLORIEUX,HEROS, FRESNEL, PASCAL, ACTEON, CERES, VENUS, IRIS, HENRI POINCARE, PALLAS, DIAMANT. A.1. ARIZONA has unloaded 4,000 tons military equipment, CAPITAINE PRIEUR is unloading military supplies and general cargo. GUSTAVE GUISTLEAU has arrived with general cargo. CAPITAINE LUGI has left for Casablanca. RHEA has arrived. A.1. (B.A.D. Washington 1937R/3).

Fuelling St.Helena. Your 1601N/30 and Admty. 1452/1. The use of St. Helena as a fuelling base has strategic advantages over ports on West African Coast. I appreciate that for vessels of small endurance whose speed may be seriously reduced by head wind and sea the use of a fuelling port such as Pointe Noire will avoid the S.E. Trades. (2). When circumstances permit request you will consider stationing an oiler which will remain at sea R/V within reasonable distance of St. Helena and which could be ordered there when required to provide fuel under the lee of the island. (4th S.L. 2000A/3 to C.in C. S.A.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Derna, Benghazi bombed.

Day 1/11. 9 Marylands bombed Derna Harbour and Aerodrome during afternoon bombs burst on Mole near Power station and in dock area starting one fire, 4 unidentified aircraft destroyed on ground on Aerodrome and three large fires started including one at stores dump, violent explosions followed by three small fires at building north of hangar - further bombs burst among dispersed aircraft. Night 1/2/11. Three Marylands bombed Cathedral Mole Benghazi two hours after dark, majority of bombs burst on Mole and in Inner Harbour but two overshot in town, damaged unobserved ground defences completely surprised and late in opening fire. One Blenheim dropped incendiary bombs on North Headland Bardia Harbour. 13 Wellingtons took off to attack petrol dumps at Benghazi. 7 aircraft bombed objective obtaining many hits. 3 Wellingtons developed engine trouble of which 2 bombed stores dumps at Berka causing explosions, third aircraft bombed Derna without visible result.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1132/3).

CENTURION.

Your 0044/1. I have no project in view for CENTURION in near future. (C.in C. Med.1241B/3 to Admty.).

Gambut bombed.

My A.862, 2/11. 2 F.A.A. Albacores on offensive night R/C of Bardia Tobruk road bombed large number M.T. parked east of Gambut South of road, results unobserved.

Suez raid night 1-2/11.

(2) Following are amplifying details. 3 aircraft flew down Gulf of Suez, 1 of them attacking CARLISLE off Ras Gharib ineffectively. Same 3 returned up Gulf and dropped 12 bombs on Suez no damage or casualties. 8 Hurricanes on patrol between Suez and Port Said made no sightings. Bombs on Prisoners of War Camp Helwan by single aircraft caused neither damage nor casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1309/3).

Enemy units.

Aircraft R/C 3/11. One destroyer, 2 merchant ships, 037° 30' 019° 50' course 330° 12 knots at 1030B. One submerged submarine 036° 50' 020° 15' course 270° at 1006B. (Capt. S.10, 1353B/3 to TRUSTY).

/ E.H.FISSER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

E.H.FISSER. MAURO CROCE.	Arrival 31st. ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER from Cartagena with iron ore. Arrival 1st MAURO CROCE in ballast. (Valencia 1355/3).
PROTEUS TAMPICO.	For information (i) A submarine was sighted in your area by enemy destroyer at 1030B/3. (ii) Italian tanker TAMPICO entered Aegean from Dardanelles at 1230B/2 carrying 5,000 tons gas oil probably for Trieste via Corinth canal. (Capt. S.1. 1451B/3 to PROTEUS).
PERSEUS UNIQUE.	Request you will sail PERSEUS p.m./5 to operate initially in Gulf of Sirte west of 018° E until p.m./10 when UNIQUE will be ordered to leave area and PERSEUS will relieve her off Benghazi. (Capt S.1. 1521B/3 to Capt. S.10.).
STOCKHOLM	Danish broadcast of 3/11 states that Swedish American Line, owing to difficulty of taking delivery, has sold its 28,000 ton ship STOCKHOLM, built at Monfelcone and launched there on 10/3/1940, to Italy. (D.S. 793, 6/11).
JUPITER.	(?C.in C. Med.) 0926/3 (N.T.in W.R.). Proceed Haifa so as to arrive by 0800/4. (R.A.D. Med. 1702B/3 to JUPITER.).
Ships building for Turkey.	Following from Admiral Kelly. Your 2006A/31. Proposal was made to meet Turkish objection to taking over ships which had been used by us on active service. It means that with the delay of one year in delivery we could use Turkish ships already fit for service, and replace them by ships which will be ready for delivery one year later. (N.A. Ankara 1720B/3 to Admty.). Following for Admiral Kelly:- My 2006/31 and Ambassador Angora's 2468 Foreign Office now agree to your informing Turkish Authorities as follows:- (1) We agree to the proposals in principle. (2) Steps are being taken to provide crews for the delivery of two destroyers to Turkey now. (III).One submarine will be delivered as soon as the after-trial modifications have been completed. A crew for the second submarine is not immediately available but will be provided in January. (IV). We concur that the alteration of the date of delivery in the contract is a suitable method of implementing the agreement. (V). The names of the four ships being retained will be changed. (Hd.of M. 2319A/3 to N.A. Angora).

/PORPOISE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

PORPOISE. PORPOISE leaves end of searched channel at about 2200B/3 and proceeds through 033° 24' 025° 00'. (Capt. S.1. 1845B/3 to TRIUMPH).

Turkish harbour defences. Following from Admiral Kelly.
Your 1602B/30. As value of loops depends principally on efficiency patrol service fitted with latest devices working in conjunction with them, and there is not the faintest possibility of Turks. allowing British Naval Vessels to work in Turkish Harbours in peace time, do you think worth raising this question(?). Ryder seems satisfied with ability of Turks to man loop stations under British supervision, which moreover would be situated in places difficult for British ratings to live. The H.D.A. apparatus could perhaps be postponed until Turkey enters the war, when there should not be much difficulty in Britain taking over whole defences, which it is essential should be under same authority. I suggest we concentrate on establishment of A/T defence, shore batteries, and deep minefields as soon as possible, and in laying of loops, and leave remainder until our position is more established. There can be no question of establishment of a British Base at present time in any Turkish Port. They are most sensitive about any suggestion of this sort, and Germans are watching. Please when may I expect plan of proposed system of defences. (N.A. Angora. 1901B/3 to C.in C. Med.).

Survivors landed in Algeria. Algiers 30/10 B.2. On 28 or 29/10 twenty survivors among whom were six Officers from an unidentified ship of British registry landed near Cap de Fer about 37° N. 7' E. Admiralty authorities Bona have taken charge of them. Twenty five survivors landed about the same time in Philippeville Bay and are in charge of the Admiralty authorities Philippeville. Some survivors are ill. No information that any are wounded. Investigations are being made. (B.A.D. Washington 1935R/3).

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. -Contd.

Situation report 163.

ABDIEL and ten destroyers are employed in operation "Glencoe". Operation begun p.m./2 to transport a division of 11,000 Indian and 3,400 British troops from Egypt to Cyprus and 15,500 British troops from Cyprus to Palestine. Operation is under command of R.A.D.

2. Western Desert. Spasmodic shelling at Tobruk by battery to eastward and some minor air raids.

3 Red. Sea. Suez escort force has been reinforced during full moon period and consists of CARLISLE, AVONVALE, ERIDGE, and five sloops. Flag of F.O.R.S. has been transferred to Suez.

4. Enemy U/B activity continues. One U/B near missed by aircraft in 33° 44' N 24° 48' E at 1220/1. Another unreliably reported and attacked without result 22 miles West of Alexandria at 1220/2.

5. Malta. Force K again at sea night 1/2 without result. Wellington attack Benghazi convoy see H.Q. Malta 2045/1.
Western Desert striking force were unable to intercept same convoy.

6. Submarines. URGE sank 1,500 ton Southbound escorted M/V at 0750/22/10 in 035° 45' N 011° 06' E. and also sank 4,000 ton merchant ships at anchor in 035° 50' N 011° 05' E at 1834/22/10. Ship was possibly already damaged by Blenheims.

7. URSULA scored two hits on Southbound medium size M/V in convoy 0800/18/10. in 035° 25' N 011° 39' E. Ship apparently sank later. URSULA also bombarded two brick bridges on 22/10 in 038° 00' N 016° 08' E from 1,500. 77 rounds fired from 1419 to 1439 in spite of ineffective machine gun and rifle fire. Request no mention of bombardment. (C.in C. Med. 2019B. 2025B/3).

Malta Raid.

Night 2/3. 2 alarms 2016-2103 hours 0407-0444 hours. Total 13 bombers approached. 5 crossed coast. All bombs in sea. Hurricanes up no illuminations or interceptions.
Night 2/3. Two special Wellingtons shipping sweep. 4 x 250 lb. bombs on 2 M/Vs one probable D/R 1930 hours 117° Catania 255 miles. Results unobserved.

Air Operations.

Night 2/3. 4 naval aircraft attacked sulphur factory Licata. Hits sulphur factory and possible power station. All returned. 22 Wellingtons attacked Castel Benito aerodrome. (Details of damage). A most successful and determined attack by Wellington crews. (H.Q. Malta 2100/3, 2115/3).

Crimea.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports Crimea situation obscure enemy have occupied Backchisari but as far as he knows not Simferopol. Sevastopol bombing commenced yesterday. Please inform Admiralty. (No.30 M.M. 2201/3).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

AQUITANIA. — Your 1830/2 and 1507/1. AQUITANIA is delayed at Colombo until a.m./6 with condenseritis. Master definitely states unable to sail. Ship could not therefore reach Capetown until 16th. Master also states 8 days boiler cleaning is essential either Colombo or Capetown. Ship cannot therefore comply with your 1835/29. Pending further instructions am detaining her at Colombo. (C. in C. E.I., 0520 Z/3 to Admty).

Russians and Bandar Gulf. — I have been unofficially asked whether we have a S.N.O. at Bandarshahpur. If so the Russians would like to send one there too. 2. This does not seem necessary to me and may politically be undesirable. Request your views. 3. I do not intend answering this question unless I am asked officially. -(Adm. Miles, 1309D/3 to Admty).

W.S.12 X. — Admty 1300A/25. Convoy W.S. 12 X is expected to arrive Capetown 2/12. (D.O.D. (F) 1912A/3 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

CORTELLAZZO, RAMB I, WINNETOU, PIETRO ORSEOLO. — Kobe. Arrival 25/10 Italian CORTELLAZZO painted grey with black funnels; on 26/10 she was alongside German WINNETOU. Italian ship RAMB I was alongside WINNETOU on 30/10. and has not been sighted since. Italian PIETRO ORSEOLO alongside WINNETOU on 2/11. Comment. Presumed all 3 ships were bunkering. (C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0302Z/3 to Admty).

French Shipping. — Arrival 2nd D'ARTAGNAN 3rd LE CONTE DE LISLE. (Manila, 0626Z/3 to M. of W.T.)

/French.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - Contd.

French Ships. Arrival 2/11 CAP VARELLA, SI-KIANG, PIERRE L.D., VILLE DE VERDUN. Departure 1st Nov. BOUGAINVILLE Haiphong.
(Saigon, 09322/3).

Free French Movement. Your 1025/21, it is not proposed to appoint Col. Burkhardt pending arrival of Chancellor's report. Request you will carry on with the work as hitherto for the present and report on nature of the work of officer to be appointed if later approved. (Head of M., Approved by A.C.N.S. (F) 2321A/3 to C. in C. China).

America & West Indies.

Suspicious Tanker, 21/10. My 1234A/1. Ship may have been new Portuguese Fishing Trawler SANTA PRINCESSA.
(D.D.I.C., 1048A/3 to Opnav, C. in C. A.W.I.)

DIDO Morale, of ships' companies in U.S.A. Experience is showing that peace and plenty of U.S.A. is unsettling for ships' companies after rigours of more active war zones. This lowering of morale would be corrected by brief visits to England and a short leave.
DIDO will be first ship whose crew has remained intact. Though the attitude of her very good ship's company has remained entirely correct it would be beneficial if there should be an opportunity of a home bound convoy requiring escort allowing her a short time at home before proceeding to her war station. Her Captain considers morale so gained would be greater than advantage of working up at Bermuda.
(B.A.R.M., 1308R/3 to Admty).

O.N.28. Serial 15, ON. 28 disperse at discretion.
(Opnav, 13452/3 to Com Task Unit 4.1.6).

/LIVERPOOL....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

LIVERPOOL. Your 2217A/3/9 (2217A/3/10 intended). (a) and (b) all armament on board is manned except one 6" gun in each turret. (c) Torpedo armament on board can be fully manned battle. (d) Two lines manned in four watches. (e) and (g) as stated. (f) and (h) None. (i) Sufficient. (B.A.R.M., 1502R/3 to Admty).

ARROW HEAD, SNOWBERRY. C.C.N.F., 1356/2. It is assumed that it is intended that ARROWHEAD and SNOWBERRY should be refitted under lend lease. Please confirm. They can be accepted at Charleston on Wednesday 26/11. (B.A.R.M., 1508R/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Your 1508/3 this is confirmed B.A.D. pass to C.N.A. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1721Z/3 to B.A.R.M. Washington).

CATHAY. Your 1232A/30/10. Request outline requirements by message. Is ship to be fitted as troop transport? Early information essential in order to reduce dislocation of work in Navy Yard. (B.A.R.M., 1546R/3 to Admty).

H.X.158. Task Unit 4.1.8 designated escort H.X.158 Composition BUCK (S.O.) LUDLOW, SWANSON, McCORMICK, COLE. (Opnav, 1616Z/3 to Admty).

LIVERPOOL. Following is intended programme. Leave San Francisco P.M./3. Arrive Balboa P.M./11. Leave Balboa A.M./12. Arrive and leave Colon P.M./12. Arrive Bermuda 16/11. Supply of 1100 tons fuel at Balboa has been arranged. (B.A.D., 1629R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ILEX. A.M.1650/2[illegible]/3. Arrival of ILEX in U.S.A. will be delayed until approx. 6/1/1942 owing to necessary temporary repairs to ensure seaworthiness. (D.O.D. (F) 1649A/3 to B.A.R.M.)

Convoy T.C. 14A. In view of U-boat situation request you will consider provision of local escort to vicinity of 50° W., in addition to PIORUN and GARLAND. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1703A/3 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

/INDOMITABLE..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

INDOMITABLE aground off Kingston.

Regret to report ship grounded at 1621R/3 with stem in position 174° 600 feet from Rackum Cay Beacon. Way was nearly off but ship is fast from stem for about 100 feet. Am lightening ship. No tug available here. Weather sea calm, no wind. (INDOMITABLE, 1716Q/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE's 1716Q/3. Salvags Ship WILLET ordered from Miami left for Kingston at 2030R today. Speed about 13 knots. Captain Davis Head Salvage Officer requested fly from New York first opportunity all possible steps being taken locally lighten both ships. Intend keeping Canadian minesweepers until situation clears. (Capt. I/C Jamaica, 2130R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

OMAHA, SOMERS.

My 1701/29 and 1749/30 and 2030/1 your 2127/30A and 0855/31A, 1723/2 and 1243/3A. Correct route OMAHA, SOMERS pass point 15° N., 26° W. 3/11 arrive Recife 8/11 leave 9th then patrol to northward andwestward arriving Trinidad 15/11. (Opnav, 1725Z/3 to Admty).

C.T.5
W.S.12 X.
T.C.15.

Opnav 2044/2, D. of S.T. 0720A/1, my 2043Z/27/10 and relevant signals, Admty 0217A/24/10 para. (3). If you agree that probable arrival C.T.5. at Halifax will be late 7th or A.M./8, it is now proposed transhipment will be carried out 8th and 9/11 to sail W.S.12 X A.M./10. This delay of one day it is expected will delay sailing T.C.15 to A.M./14. Request approval to delay all movements of troops to seaboard one day and complete embarkation by late P.M./13 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1833Z/3, to Admty).

CLARKIA aground.

CLARKIA grounded in position 196° Rackum Cay beacon 500 yards about 1230R/3 and is still fast. (INDOMITABLE, 1841R/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ROODE ZEE.

Early release of ROODE ZEE is of such importance that some inconvenience at Bermuda must be accepted. Request you will arrange to replace ROODE ZEE on conclusion of ST. BLAZEY's refit by two of the tugs mentioned in NS.H.Q. 1843Z/20 pending availability of more suitable relief. Arrangements will be made to dock ROODE ZEE elsewhere. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1922A/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

B.A.D. Washington 1935R/3 See Mediterranean.

B.A.D. Washington 1937R/3 See S. Atlantic.

/CITY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

CITY OF ALBERTA.	Schooner CITY OF ALBERTA due Vancouver 20/10 APIA has not arrived. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2109Z/3)
BROADWAY.	Proceed forthwith with 4.1.12 to Belle Isle and cover passage of convoy through Straits till dusk/4. Further orders follow. (C.C.N.F., 21462/3 to BROADWAY).
INDOMITABLE, CLARKIA.	INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA are aground at entrance Kingston Jamaica. Request nearest U.S. tug may proceed Kingston in case required. (C.in C. A.W.I., 2222Q/3 to B.A.D.) Request KILLERIG if free may be sent from Trinidad and any available tugs from Curacao. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2332Q/3, to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, S.N.O. Curacao).
Task Groups C.T.5.	8.DDS. designated Task Group 14.9 departed Casco Bay towards 045° N., 035° W., to relieve D.D.S. of Task Group 14.3 escorting C.T.5. (Opnav, 2305Z/3 to Admty).

New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.	Your 0500Z/30. Request you will proceed direct to KHIOS. Docking can be arranged at Sydney after 6/11. Please signal E.T.A. at Sydney. (N.Z.N.B., 0925M/3 to LE TRIOMPHANT).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.52.
FLYNDERBORG
GRETAVALE
torpedoed.

My 0328Z/3. (N.T. in W.R.) Ships sunk were FLYNDERBORG (corrupt group) survivors only. GRETAVALE all but 3 picked up all in WINDFLOWER. (BROADWAY 0435Z/3 to Opnav.)
FLYNDERBORG, British, 2022 tons, from Parrsboro for London with lumber; GRETAVALE, British, 4586 tons, from Baltimore to Loch Ewe with steel. (D.S. 791, 5/11.)

EMPIRE GEMSBUCK, British.
MICHAEL L.)
EMBIRICOS,)
Greek.

Also reported torpedoed in S.C.52. (D.S.791.) No. signal in W.D.
BROADWAY reports S.C.52 attacked in 51° 21' N., (?51°)45' W. 2 ships torpedoed. T.O.O. 0328Z/3. (Ends.) Request air escort forthwith. (C.C.N.F., 0439/3, to O.C.No.1, Group, R.C.A.F., Comtask 4 etc.)
Nos. 83 and 84 of S.C.52 torpedoed and sinking in 052° 06' N., 052° 50' W. All but one survivor picked up. Convoy has (?scattered) and proceeded Sydney C.B. Thick fog. Intend hunting in vicinity until dusk returning to St. Johns' N.F. with all despatch.
(BROADWAY, 1558Z/3, to Opnav.)
Following has been read:-
S.O.S. DEBRAAF (part missed) torpedoed 22.50 S., (part missed.)
(Slangkop W/T, 0730/3, to Whitehall W/T.)

LIBERIAN.

Following has been read: S S S S LIBERIAN 4° 36' N., 02° 09' E., enemy submarine sighted 1427/3 G.M.T. stop, ship near.
(LIBERIAN, T.O.R. 1520/3.)
Following has been read, 004° 31' N., 001° 54'E., attacked by S/M, torpedoes eluded, no further attack since last message.
(LIBERIAN, 1630/3.)

Submarines Reported.

2345G.M.T./2.

Your 1113A/2.(W.R. message calling for repetition of 0043/31 not prev. recd.) At 2345 G.M.T. German submarine bearing 269/2. Traffic 28 groups of G.N.E. T.O.O. 0043/31.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0942A/3, to Admty.)

0446 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0446/3 G.M.T. U-Boat was within 60 miles of 56° 30' N., 15° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 1030A/3, to S. and A., W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

/0511 G.M.T.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. Contd.

0511 G.M.T. D/F at 0511/3 G.M.T. indicates that Convoy H.X. 156 or O.N.31 was reported by a U/Boat. (D.D.I.C. 1041A/3 to Escorts O.N.31, Opnav,etc.) (Opnav 1145/3 to Comtask Unit 4.1.7.)

0827 G.M.T. Convoy C.T.5. Inconclusive D/F at 0827/3 G.M.T. suggests that a U-boat may be in the vicinity of Convoy C.T.5. (D.D.I.C. 1106A/3, to Escorts. C.T.5.)

0835 G.C.T. Convoy C.T.5. Torpedoes were sighted at 0835 G.C.T./3 by Task Group 14.3 escorting C.T.5. (Opnav, 1329Z/3, to Action Admiralty. D.T.D. 1806A/3, to C. in C.W.A.)

Estimated approximate positions. (D.D.I.C. 1331A/3, 1408A/3.)

1427. Ref. Admty., message A.F., position 4.36N., 2.09E., at 1427. (C. in C.S.A., 1622 G.M.T./3, to Area 6 A-D.)

1802A. Enemy aircraft are homeing probably 6 U Boats on to convoy. Only convoy on approx., bearing is O.S.10. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/3, to O.S.10.)

2026Z/3. Indications that a probable U-boat was within 60 miles of 001° 30' S., 005° E., at 2026Z/3. 50% reliable. (C. in C.S.A., 2315N/3, to PHOEBE.)

Submarines Attacked.

By BRANDON. Sighted and attacked enemy submarine steering east at 2220Z/2 position 046° 13' N., 054° 56' 56' W., ships in company MIMOSA SHEDIAC. (H.M. Ship, ? BRANDON, 0005Z/3, to C.O.A.C., Halifax, C.C.N.F.)
MIMOSA and SHEDIAC met BRANDON at 2200Z/2 in 046° 09' N., 054° 38' W. BRANDON reported sighting S/M on surface proceeding at high speed, course approx., 090°. BRANDON made enemy sighting report. S/M believed to have submerged immediately. Search was carried out. BRANDON had to leave for Halifax at 0100Z/3. Am continuing search with SHEDIAC but fuel does not permit remaining after 0900Z/3. (MIMOSA, 0130Z/3, to C.C.N.F.)

/By A/C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. Contd.

By A/C 1313 G.M.T. — In 12° 28' N., 17° 38' W., 2 D.C.s dropped result unknown. 1 Hudson search submarine 1515 to 1830 nothing sighted.
(A.H.Q., West Africa 0810/3.)

By A/C. — My 1604. (N.T. in W.R.) Aircraft attacked submarine with depth charges, estimated no hits. Enemy course and speed are 300° 2 knots.
(C. in C.S.A., 1512N/3, to S.A.Stn.)

By BUCTOUCHE. — Following from BROADWAY, begins, BUCTOUCHE has attacked submarine in 052° 10' N., 052° 50 W., much oil.
(C.C.N.F., 2316/3rd to Cmdr., Task Force 4, C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Two Wellingtons attacked the battle cruisers at Brest last night; 2 - 4,000 lbs. bombs were dropped.

Attacks were made by Coastal Command A.M. today on shipping off the north coast of Holland.

Special patrols were flown today to the southern Norwegian coast by aircraft of Coastal Command.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today, on account of unsuitable weather.

Enemy Air Operations.

N.O.I.C. Faeroes reports that one enemy aircraft dropped bombs near Thorshavn Oil Tanks at 0844 today. No Naval damage was caused. O.C. Faeroe Islands Force, however, states that the attack was made on the A.A. gun site or civilian hospital.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.	A wooden sailing barge was reported blown up this morning just off the Maplin.
Bristol Channel.	Dutch M/V MADJOE was mined and sunk in 51° 34' 38" N., 3° 50' 30" W. Port Talbot was closed at 0922A.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

It is reported that a French convoy bound for Casablanca to load rubber passed Tangier early this afternoon.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN attacked by S/M.

Oiler OLWEN reported that she was attacked by a merchant ship raider at 0530Z today in 3° 5' N. 22° 35' W. The message was cancelled at 0545/4. but it was considered that the cancellation was probably made by the raider, as OLWEN again made QQ at 0630. DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX were despatched to search, and Task Group 3.6 also searched. Later, OLWEN reported that she made her Q signal on being fired at in dawn light by an unseen attacker, probably a S/M on the surface. OLWEN was undamaged. She received a message in P.L. from callsign NERK to Steer S.W. and that NERK was coming to assist her, but OLWEN disregarded this.

S.S. BRADFORD CITY.

Walvis Bay Radio this morning intercepted an S.O.S. message from S.S. BRADFORD CITY indicating that the crew had abandoned ship and were making for shore.

Mediterranean.

TARN attacked by S/M.

French Naval Oiler TARN reported that she was attacked by a British Submarine in 36° 40' N., 2° 30' E., at 0340 today. The submarine, if any was not British, however.

/Air.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air Operations. 2 out of 5 naval aircraft despatched bombed Augusta Submarine Base last night.

Suez. A few bombs were dropped last night near the entrance to the Canal at Suez and an abortive attack tooke place on a convoy about 100 miles south of Suez. Traffic is suspended in the Canal at km. 137 pending investigation of a suspected U.X. object. No damage or casualties are reported.

Black Sea. The evacuation of women and children and unnecessary gear from Sevastopol is in progress.

The Soviet cruiser VOROSHILOV has been damaged by bombs in Novorossisk.

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 4.11.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Combined Signal School. Admiralty's 1907/1 and C.Q.2. 1220/3. To allow Combined Signal School to function as planned it is essential that no dislocation on scale required by C.Q.2. should be allowed. Surrender of ratings as requested will destroy whole sequence of instruction for winter's training.
It is strongly urged that ratings under instruction at Combined Signal School be not interfered with before December.
(F.O. C.T.C., 1001A/4 to Admty.)

F.O.S. 1309A/4. See Mediterranean.

V.A.2. R.A.D. V.A.2. has been directed to proceed to Scapa to take over Home Fleet Duties in absence of C. in C. H.F. As soon as V.A.2. has taken over, R.A.(D) is to proceed to Admiralty.
(1st S.L., 1918A/4.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Murmansk. There is no truth in Finnish claim to be advancing on Murmansk as announced B.B.C. today. Military situation as follows. Details.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1159C/4.)

Russian Trawlers for U.K. My 1259D/27, para. 2.
Informed that after personal investigation Kugnetsov has decided that there are no trawlers available.
(Ad. Miles, 1637D/4 to Admty.)

Movements.

PETUNIA. Arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 0805A/4.)

BELMONT. Sail BELMONT to Hvalfjord when ready.
(C. in C. W.A., 1016A/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/AUSONIA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, HIGHLAND PRINCESS, BLANKNEY, CHELSEA.

Sail AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, HIGHLAND PRINCESS, BLANKNEY from Clyde. CHELSEA from Londonderry to R/V arranged by F.O.I.C. Greenock.
(2) Destinations AUSONIA Cardiff. HIGHLAND PRINCESS Avonmouth. MONTCLARE Falmouth. HILARY Southampton.
(3) CHELSEA part company off Falmouth and proceed to Londonderry.
(4) BLANKNEY part company off Needles and proceed to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., 1112A/4.)
Admiralty's 1401A/25/10, C. in C. W.A. 1029A/3, and my 1830A/3.
AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, and S.S. HIGHLAND PRINCESS will be ready to leave Clyde at 0800A/5.
(S.O.W.P., 1230A/4.)
Intend sailing AUSONIA, MONTCLARE, HILARY, and HIGHLAND PRINCESS for Cardiff, Falmouth, Southampton and Avonmouth respectively escorted by BLANKNEY passing Clyde Boom at 0800A/5 to R/V with CHELSEA at number 5 Channel buoy at 1200A/5 thence by standard route to 270° Smalls 10 miles. Routes thereafter.
(S.O.W.P., 1600A/4.)
C. in C. W.A. 1112A/4. Request you will sail CHELSEA to R/V Clyde Number 5 Channel Buoy at 1200A/5.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1646A/4 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry)

P.37.

My 0929A/3. P.37 escorted by WHITE BEAR sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1243A/4.)

RORQUAL.

E.T.A. 1800A/4 with RORQUAL.
(LA CAPRICIEUSE, 1350A/4 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

DUNCAN.

F.O.C.N.A. 1724A/3. Route to Plymouth.
2. In order that fighter protection may be arranged as far West as possible you should pass through position (b) at 0800 if practicable.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1612/4 to DUNCAN.)

SEAWOLF.

From 73° 40' N. 24° E. proceed through following positions to R/V with SHTORM class destroyer in position (d) 69° 34' N. 34° 10' E. at 10000/9.
T.B.R. 20 miles either side of your route from 0001/7. (3) Teriberski and Kildin Island northern lights will be shown for 5 minutes every quarter of an hour from 05000/9.

/(4) Escort.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 4.11.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

SEAWOLF (Contd.) (4) Escort will return to harbour after 4 hours if contact is not made, repeating R/V 24 hours later.
Admiralty pass to SEAWOLF on H.S. routine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1819C/4 to SEAWOLF.)

UNA. Sailed UNA and CUTTY SARK in accordance with S.3. 2201A/1.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1908A/4.)

MONTROSE. Proceed when ready to Rosyth. On arrival you will be required to embark V.A.2. and staff for Middle Scapa as ordered by RENOWN.
2. Speed West of Fidue Island - Elieness is not to exceed 9 knots except in emergency.
(R.A.D. H.F., 1911/4 to MONTROSE.)
Sailed MONTROSE for Rosyth. E.T.A. 0700A/5.
(R.A.D., 2030A/4.)

RODNEY, ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE. On completion of serial 51 tomorrow ONSLOW with IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE proceeds to Londonderry.
On arrival complete with fuel. Leave Londonderry as necessary to R/V with RODNEY in position Y at 1100Z/7.
3. When met take over A/S screen from HIGHLANDER, HAVELOCK, HARVESTER and provide escort to Scapa in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1116A/4.
(R.A.D. H.F., 2145A/4.)

Operations.

Action off Gris Nez. One M/V hit. M.G.B. 42 and M.G.B.43 damaged. M.T.B's 38, 218, and 220 with M.G.B's 43 and 42 were sailed at 2113/3 to intercept enemy shipping plotted 3 miles North of Calais steering to Westward.
Interception was made at 2217 just South of Griz Nez and enemy found to consist of 1 large M/V 1 fast vessel possibly M class minesweeper 1 trawler and about 4 R-boats.
The large M/V was hit by 2 torpedoes from M.T.B. 218 and has either sunk or been beached. R/C will be made at dawn. No casualties or damage to M.T.B's. M.G.B's 43 and 42 subsequently engaged escort vessels.

/M.G.B. 42.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Action off Gris Nez. One M/V hit. M.G.B.42 and M.G.B. 43. damaged. Contd.

M.G.B. 42 hit in engine room and has returned to Harbour with 2 ratings wounded. M.G.B. 43 reported at 2300 that she was returning with several wounded but she has not arrived and is not on the plot or in W/T touch.
Search is being made by M.T.B's 45 and 48 and at daylight by M.G.B's 9 and 11 in co-operation with aircraft.
(V.A. Dover, 0231A/4.)
My 0231. M.G.B. 43 located at daylight stopped in mid-Channel bows badly damaged. Now being towed back to harbour. Casualties one officer and three ratings wounded.
(V.A. Dover, 0941A/4.)

CLYDE.

F.O.C.N.A. 1603/3.
In order to make use of air R/C for reporting likely eastbound targets propose CLYDE should operate between 044° and 045° N. and 006° and 008° W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1734/4 to Admty.)

Interception of enemy heavy units.

Failing further information proceed with BEDOUIN and INTREPID on Iceland Faroes Patrol. Assume enemy warship may (? pass through) on night 5th/6th.
(C. in C. H.F., 2055N/4 to C.S. 10.)
My 1701A/3, para. A. Add subsidiary object. To attack and report northbound merchant ships if in company with cruisers and above.
(F.O.S. 1244A/4 to P.35.)

Biscay S/M Patrol. CLYDE.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1306/3. In order to make use of air R/C for reporting likely eastbound targets, propose CLYDE should operate between 044° and 045° N. and 006° and 8° W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1734/4.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0205/4.)
"Stand" by two aircraft in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0939/4.)

/ N/C.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

A/C Recognition Signal.

Trial by convoy patrol (details.)
Request that Naval Authorities report results to H.Q.F.C.
(H.Q. 11 Group, 1015/4.)

Brest bombed. One M/V 7 to 10,000 tons hit.

On 3/11 no operations took place owing to weather. On Night 3/4 SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU at Brest were attacked by 2 A/C. No results were seen.
One A/C sighted a convoy off the North coast of Holland and scored a direct hit on a ship estimated 7-10,000 tons.
(H.Q.B.C., 1330/4.)

Interception of enemy heavy units.

My 2055N/4th. (see Operations). Request covering air patrols and "Polar" may be established.
(C. in C. H.F., 2135N/4 to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Faroes bombed.

Single enemy aircraft attacked Thorshavn 0840 hours today, objective A.A. Gun Site or civilian hospital. No casualties or damage, only 2 bombs exploding, A.A. gunfire effectively keeping aircraft high.
(O.C. Faroes, 1117/4 to War Office.)
One enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs in the vicinity of Thorshavn oil tanks at 0844 today. Slight damage to civilian property. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1120A/4.)

AGILITY (British Tanker, 522 tons) damaged on 2/11.

Damaged by A/C at 1900/2 in Yarmouth Roads. No casualties. Ship will be dry docked at Yarmouth.
(D.S., 791.)

Mining.

Bristol Channel.

Port Talbot is closed until further orders.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0922A/4.)
My 1148A/2nd and 1049A/3. Similar procedure will be carried out today. STEWARD group will leave Swansea Bay 0930/5. Reference my 0922A/4 Port Talbot will be open from 1500 to 1800 today.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1223A/4.)

MOST SECRET

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

S.N.83A.
S.N.7C.

Your 1403/2. Concur, but in view of my 1916/3 it may not be possible to lay S.N.7C.
(A.C.N.S. H., 0955A/4 to R.A.M.)

MADJOE (Dutch, 249 tons) sunk.

(II) MADJOE sunk in 51° 34'38" N. 3° 50'30" W.
(III) Port Talbot closed. Incoming traffic will be stopped by examination vessel.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1008A/4.)

Thames Estuary.

At 1053A/4 one Green Mine detonated in 51° 28.9'N. 0° 55' E. Details.
(HOLDERNESS, 1059A/4.)

Milford Haven.

At 0837/4 one Green Mine detonated by Sweepers in 076° St. Anne's Head Light 9.85 cables. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1743/4.)

Firth of Forth.

Blue mine detonated 1150/4 by single "L" in 56° 01'06" N. 03° 06'40" W.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1851/4.)

Humber.

At 1325 today L.L. Sweepers detonated one Magnetic Mine 330° 57D 2 miles.
(F.O. Humber, 2030A/4.)

BRITISHER sunk.

(Sailing Barge). Reported blown up at 1115 today just off Maplin. No survivors. Report made by skipper of sailing barge WILL EVERARD which was about 200 ft. away at time of explosion.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 2058A/4.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Coasts. MINERVE.

MINERVE reports carrying out patrol between Jaederens and Egero. Many very small Norwegian ships close inshore mostly southbound. Details and events.
(F.O.S., 1754A/4.)

E-Boats.

E-Boat activity suspected from Yarmouth northwards.
(C. in C. Nore, 2237A/4.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Ice. R.A.F. report numerous large icebergs between 067° 58' N. 031° 51' W. and Greenland coast, and similar conditions up to 068° 19', 029° 20'. In 067° 55' N. 022° 45' W. observed stretches of Brash with clear water between running East and West, biggest 2 miles long and 70 yards wide. (A.C.I.C., 0351N/4.)

Whitestone Bank. Lightboat has been run into and damaged. It is hoped to place her on her station again tomorrow. Meantime there is nothing marking the Whitestone Bank position. (Marthen Lighthouse Board, 1255/4.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.Convoys. 1. After P.Q.3 what is the approx. sailing date and their number of ships in the next two convoys?
2. Will the cargo be approx. similar quantity and description as previous convoys?
3. Will all the ships be able to handle all cargo with own gear?
4. TEMPLEARCH and QUEEN CITY arrived at Archangel requiring bunkers homeward passage. Please do utmost to avoid this.
5. Can you arrange to place interpreter in each ship future convoys as local ones insufficient (group omitted) ice conditions now making communication difficult.
(Maclay, Archangel, 1530C/4 to Min. of War Transport.)
Is time of arrival P.Q.3 at position Z known.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1602C/4.)
C. in C. Northern Fleet offers to supply 3 pilots to embark in Commodore's ships of Q.P. and P.Q. convoys remaining on board throughout voyage. Although not considered necessary perhaps proposal might be worth a trial.
If approved first pilot could embark Q.P.3.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1814C/4.)

Timber Ships. Following for Min. of War Transport from Robinson 5.
With last move sailed CHERNYSHEVSKI 1165 standards, STEPHAN KHALTURIN 1110, IJORA 1067.
(Archangel, 1640/4 to Admty.)

/H.X. 157.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

H.X. 157.
CAPE WARWICK,
ANGLE.

Have 8 ships for U.K. and only one trawler available for escort. Intend sailing H.M.S. CAPE WARWICK with one 10 knot ship to join H.X.157. Use own trawlers to escort (? 2) fast fish carriers to Scrabster. Use ANGLE to escort 5 7-knot ships Minches.
(A.C.I.C., 1917N/4.)

E.N.2A.
(Fast)
O.N.34.

Special Convoy E.N.2A (Fast) is to be sailed from Methil at 1500/5.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2251/4.)
O.N.34 not passing through Minches. Request you will sail a fast E.N.2A convoy p.m. tomorrow and that the trawlers may wait in Loch Ewe to take the convoy on to the R/V off Oversay.
(D.T.D., 2327/4 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raider Situation.

My 2142A/28.
1. On 30/10 4 rafts and House Flag of U.S. Scantic Line washed ashore near Pernambuco. Not more than 7 days in water, so probable that Ship was sunk by raider. Possible ships are MORMACREY, Santos 26/10 for New York or MORMACRIO, Trinidad 22/10 for B.A.
2. Further description shows Ship sighted by PATOKA was not a Tanker and may have been a raider.
3. OLWEN reported being attacked by raider at 0530/4 in 03° 05' N. 22° 35' W. Message cancelled at 0545/4 but this probably by raider as OLWEN again made Q.Q. at 0630.
4. 0010 to 0040/29/10 NARINGA sighted searchlight beam in estimated position 32° 25' S. 09° 22' E. No British Warships in Area.
5. Now known no reason for OLIVIA's distress message and no evidence, therefore of raider in Indian Ocean.
6. EMPIRE STARLIGHT arrived Panama safely. (D.D.I.C. 1915A/4).

North Atlantic.

French ships. — Passings 3/11. Westward ALGERIE ?GRAND QUEVILLY, both full TATIANA. (V.A.C.N.A. 0921A/4). Gibraltar passings on 2/11. (D.O.R. 4/11).

TETRARCH. — Report P.C. and S. forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 1236A/4 to TETRARCH).

TARN. — French tanker, reported attacked by S/M off Algiers. See Mediterranean.

Flag of F.O. Force H. — My Flag was transferred to MALAYA a.m./1. (F.O. Force H. 1115A/4).

/S.S. INDRA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

S.S. INDRA. — Your 1735A/3 No. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1549A/4 to Admty.)

CHEF MECANICIEN ARMAND BLANC. — Intercepted southbound in territorial waters. Keeping in company. Request instructions. (LOCH OSKAIG 1745A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your 1845A/4. Take no action. Resume patrol. (F.O.C.N.A. 2015A/4 to LOCH OSKAIG).

French shipping. — Arfar 304/4. My tel. 296. French convoy escorted by destroyers passed Tangier bound S.W. early this afternoon. (2) Mr. Eccles has been informed by a friendly member of French colony that ships are bound for Casablanca to load rubber. (Consul-Gen., Gibraltar 1850/4 to M.E.W.)

South Atlantic.

OLWEN attacked by raider. — British Steamer OLWEN heard by commercial station Wim Chatham on 36 meters making QQQ attacked by surface raider 0530 G.M.T., position 03° 04' N. 22° 42' W. (B.A.D. Washington, 0240R/4 to Admty.)(Freetown T.O.R. 0531/4 to Whitehall).
OLWEN, 6470 tons, Freetown for New Orleans. (D.S. 791).
QQQQ received from oiler OLWEN attacked by surface raider 003° 04' N. 022° 42' W. at 0530 G.M.T./4. Investigate. (C. in C. S.A., 0503N/4 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON).

Force Q to search. — Oiler OLWEN attacked in 003° 05' N. 022° 35' W. at 0530/4. Take QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX under your orders, proceed search for the raider in areas H.34.B and G.34.C. (C. in C. S.A. 0621N/4 to DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS BEATRIX). Following has been read. QQQQ OLWEN. Amend position 0 3° 0 5' N., 2 2° 35' at 0630. (Freetown W/T, 0630 G.M.T/4 to Whitehall).

/Disguised....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN attacked by raider - Contd.

Disguised merchant ship raider reported attacking British S.S. OLWEN in 03° 04' N. 22° 42' W. at 05302/4. (D.D.I.C. 0640Z/4 to Opnav).
Following has been read. Cancel my RRRR 0531/4. (Port Patrick Radio, T.O.R. 0647/4).
Oiler OLWEN attacked by surface raider 003° 05' N. 022° 35' W. at 0530 G.M.T./4.
(C. in C. S.A., 0723/4 to B.A.D. Washington 0915N/4 to Commandant, 15th Naval District, Balboa)
Intercept 0655 G.M.T. DE NERK. Addressed GLBB (Unread) 12(Unread) West I am coming to your Assistance, speed 30 knots. This may be intended for OLWEN. (Lands End Radio, 0758/4).
My 0723/4. British Force proceed to search area between bearings 125° and 205° from last reported position. (C. in C. S.A., 1045/4 to B.A.D.)
At 0545 G.M.T. Port Patrick W/T Station intercepted cancellation of QQQQ 0531/4 from Station using call sign V.P.U. Was this genuine cancellation? (D.D.I.C. 1328A/4 to C. in C.S.A.)
Your 1328A/4/11. Message was not genuine. No cancellation was made as far as is known at Freetown). (C. in C. S.A. 1421N/4 to Admty. amended 1204N/5).
Cancellation of QQQQ message 0530/4 from Oiler OLWEN made at 0545 G.M.T. by Station using call sign V.P.U. was not genuine. (C. in C. S.A. 1500N/4 to S.A. Station).
My 0640Z/4. Distress message by OLWEN was cancelled by station using call sign V.P.U. at 0545/4 G.M.T. This cancellation was not genuine. (D.D.I.C. 1753Z/4 to Opnav).

Search by Task Group 3.6.

Admiralty deliver to C. in C. S.A. also.
Following received from Comtask for 3 with reference 2037Z/4 action Comtask Group 3.6.I.N.F.O. Opnav Cinclant and Comtask Group 3.8. Nothing revealed on investigation of point of attack on OLWEN. Visibility only fair. At 1900 G.C.T. this group changed course to 258 speed 15. Task Group 3.6 continue course to 0305 N. 2235 W. keeping lookout for survivors Wednesday morning. Then to a point 5° S. 34° W. (Opnav 2224/4 to Admty.)

AFRICAN PRINCE. CLYDEBANK.

Overdue shipping AFRICAN PRINCE, CLYDEBANK due Capetown 31/10 and 1/11 respectively from Freetown not arrived. (Capetown 0925/B/4)

/BRADFORD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

BRADFORD CITY.

Following received 0950/4 S.O.S. BRADFORD CITY 23 S. 39.43 E. 0500/1 4? Boats adrift and rowing for Mainland D/F bearing 288°. (Walvis Bay Radio 1000B/4 to Admty.)
BRADFORD CITY has been abandoned about 260 miles west of Walvis Bay. Ship may have been torpedoed She was bound for Freetown from Mauritius independently with a cargo of sugar. (D.S. 791, 5/11)

Operation "Bellringer".

Your 1648B/3, reply from CAP TOURANE.
(i) A.M. November (corrupt group)
(ii) Passengers 345. Military Officers 31, Other Ranks 141. Civilians men 70 women and children 103. Crew Officers 12 Ratings 80.
(iii) Cargo 5700 tons for Dakar Casablanca and Marseilles 65% of sugar remainder general. Bags of mail 51.
(iv) Junior Officers including engineer assisting Army. Suspects include 12 army officers reported to be anti-British 26 German Legionaires. All quiet. (DEVONSHIRE 1139B/4 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown)
Your 1941/3 DEVONSHIRE reports that when last seen D'IBERVILLE was making 13 knots to westward. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1157B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1648B/3. (i) 0800Z/5. Particulars COMPIEGNE. (ii) Crew 285. Passengers mostly (?embarked) Saigon include 282 naval and military personnel 80 women, 57 children, 80 men civilians including political prisoners and 10 Greeks ex merchant ship. 1 American Legionaire under protective custody believed to have valuable information. Enemy nationals suspected.
(iii) Cargo alleged to include coffee, cereal, fibre, blankets, tinned meat, hidda, beeswax, bark and beryl stone. Suspicion that cargo largely discharged and contraband embarked. Particulars of BANGKOK. (ii) 5 men students.
(?iii) sugar, rice, tapioca, coffee. Small quantities graphite polish, raffia, rum, cocoa. (iv) Officers and men of both ships generally co-operative (??full stop) Military guard is on naval personnel.)
S.L. 580 not received. (COLOMBO 1227Z/4 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
Your 1648B/3, reply from CAP PADARAN.
(1) 6/11).
(2) Passengers. Civilians 125, military 24, marines 4. All passports examined. Military and marines have no papers.
(3) Cargo consists of sugar, peas, beans, raffia, rice, and hides. Ports of discharge Dakar, Casablanca and Marseilles.
(4) A member of the crew reports that there were 2 sloops and 2 submarines at Tamatave. Weather report. (DEVONSHIRE 1450Z/4 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

/A Admiraute....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Bellringer". -Contd.	A Admiraute Française Nr. 61704 avons derouté convoi sur Madagascar à quatre heurs dina. Malgré delroutement avons reçue ultimatum à cinq heurs sept. Quatre croiseurs et six patrouilleurs sur les lieux. Convoi saboté visité et pratiquement capturé 0922/3/11 FBIL. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1559Z/4 to Admty.)
BIRMINGHAM.	Your 0503/4. BIRMINGHAM is proceeding Trinidad area until about 10/11. (R.A.S.A.D. 1219Z/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
DERBYSHIRE.	Your 03?6 (2 corrupt groups) In view of congestion and consequent delay at Durban it has been arranged for repairs to DERBYSHIRE to be carried out at Port Elizabeth. Ship is being sailed for Port Elizabeth accordingly. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1303B/4 to C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Durban 1644Z/4).
COLOMBO.	On arrival East London COLOMBO is to proceed Durban to fuel and if possible retrieve her own boarding parties if any before sailing. (?Failing) this N.O.I.C. East London is to arrange to entrain COLOMBO party for Durban as soon as they can be released. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1843B/4).
Liaison.	Plans for better liaison between British and U.S. Naval forces on S.A. Station. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1941Z/4) See Lion Copy.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TARN (French Naval Oiler) attacked by S/M.

Intercepted 0341 G.M.T. de FBKH. Attaqué par un sous-marin Britainique par 36.40 N., 2.30 E. 0340. Message not rebroadcast. (Burnham on Sea Radio, Recd. 0458/4). FBKH=TARN French Warship. (Naval oiler).
Intercept 0454 G.M.T. Addressed C.Q. (as previous signal) Continues:- Touche me dirige vers la terre 0345/4/11 FBKH. (Lands End Radio, 0555/4).
TARN, 4600 tons, passed Gibraltar westward on 23/10 and returned eastward on 29/10. (D.S. 791).
Signal received from French Tanker TARN stating that she has been attacked by a British submarine off Algiers at 0341/4. Confirm to N.A. Madrid that no British submarine could have made this attack so that he can inform French N.A. (V.C.N.S. 1114A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Intelligence, Turkey.

Ref. Adty. 1244/17/10.
(a) Istanbul Trieste service at present (?spasmodic): regular service not materialised.
Since July 17th only 7 enemy cargo ships carrying 25,000 tons and 3 tankers with 13,000 tons of fuel have sailed from Istanbul for Aegean.
BALCIC remained here 41 days before proceeding to Trieste with BALKAN.
Only ABBAZZIA and CAPO PINLER now expected and no indication of arrival of other Adriatica ships.
German insurance rate issued by Trieste raised from 7 per cent to 10 per cent; with transhipment of 12 per cent. Italians cannot undertake insurances without referring to Italy.
(b) Bulk of traffic between Turkey and Germany carried out by means of Turkish Caiques (average about 50 tons capacity) which have transported to Bourgas during this period approximately 60,000 tons Turkish produce and Persian cotton.
(c) During past 2 months considerable steamer traffic with troops and war material through Piraeus but information regarding destinations almost entirely lacking here. (S.O.(I) Istanbul 1055B/4 to S.O.(I) Med.)

/TRUSTY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

TRUSTY. P.31.	TRUSTY proceed through 035° 51' 15° 15' and 036° 00' 14° 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/6. P.31 leave patrol to pass through 38° 00' 16° 00' and lst two positions to arrive 0730B/9. (S.10. 1130B/41 to TRUSTY, P.31.)
THRASHER.	Capt. (S) 1's 2231B/2. Proceed through 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/8. URSULA leaves Malta P.M./6 through 035° 30' 014° 14' and 034° 10' 014° 14' thence Misurata. Estimated her position 0630B/7 033° 48' 014° 25'. (S.10. 1135N/4 to THRASHER).
Black Sea.	Enemy forces closing in on Sevastopol. Fighting in progress along line of outer defences. No penetration as yet. Evacuation of women and children and unnecessary gear from Sevastopol in progress. Cruiser VOROSHILOV damaged by bombs in Novorossisk. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1216C/4 to Admty.)
Air Operations.	3/11. Maryland on reconnaissance of Crete sighted large patch of oil and floating debris 100 miles North of Sullum. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1227/4).
KURKULUS.	Following is a repetition of my 1259B/4. My 1935/30. KIRKULUS expected to clear Dardanelles 1500/9 for Piraeus and to leave Piraeus on reverse route November 15 or 16. Route as in my 1028/13. Ship is not to be molested at sea. (C. in C. Med. 1301B/4 to S/M's on Patrol).
ORUC REIS. MURAT REIS.	Re passage to Mediterranean. (F.O.S. 1309A/4) See Lion Copy.
PERSEUS	Your 1521B/3 PERSEUS delayed 48 hours as engine trial unsatisfactory. (Capt. S.10 1320B/4 to Capt. S.1.)
Air Raid on Suez.	Ref. C.A.F.O. No. 587. (a) Air raid night 3/4 November calm clear (b) high level attack by 2 E.A. on shipping Suez and Gulf of Suez no illuminant bright moon (c) H.E. (d) 5 or 6 bombs near entrance to Canal at Suez and abortive attack on convoy about 100 miles South Suez one suspected U.X. object at Kilo 137 in Canal traffic suspended this point pending investigation (e) No damage or casualties reported (f) A.A. barrage 4 fighters patrolled no interception (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1329B/4).

/Russian.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Russian ships from Black Sea.

My 1504A/29. Further from Admiral Miles to Admiralty begins. Have been informed that Turkish Government have now agreed to co-operate. Details not yet given but will signal as soon as known. Ends. (D.N.I. 1440A/4 to C. in C. Med.)

Air Operations.

3/11. 6 Blenheims despatched attack convoy see my I.218 failed to find as convoy not in position anticipated it having changed course after sighting report had been made later Ionian Sea recco 1320 hours 4 convoy 280° Cape Skinani 25 miles course 060° 8 knots.
Night 3/4 November. 5 Naval aircraft despatched attack submarine base Augusta owing bad weather only 2 reached target bombs dropped 3,500 lb. 4 250 G.P. 16 20 lb. incendiaries submarine base results not observed fire caused Military Barracks visible 12 miles. (H.Q. Malta 1645/4).

Enemy minelayer off Benghazi.

Shipping from northward keeping to eastward of Q.B. 51. 311° channel apparently not used. Italian Minelayer CROTONE class operating in area within following positions all from Benghazi lighthouse 009° 19.6 011° 20.9. 032° 17.4. 031° 15.8. (THRASHER 2017B/4 to S.1).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

"Q" Report. BADARPUR made Q distress message at 1525Z/3 in 005° 07' N., 049° 48' E., Message cancelled at 1645Z/3. Cancellation considered genuine, cause of message probably U.S.A. EXIRIA. (C. in C.E.I., 0350Z/4, to E.I.Sqdn.)

Port "T". My 1146/16. Delays in work, and amendment of programme of CLAN FORBES. (C. in C.E.I., 1050Z/4, to C. in C. China.) See Lion Copy.

China.

Japan. Political. Professed Policy of new government is to continue talks with America and to liquidate China Incident. Increased pressure on Indo China and Thailand is evident.
Naval. ZUIKAKU, Japan's latest aircraft carrier reported Formosa area on 18/10, possibly on "Shake Down" cruise. On 27th ZUIKAKU with RYUJO in Formosa probably being joined by SORYU and HIRYU. Also indications that ASHIGARA, 2 sea-plane carriers, 3rd Fleet Submarine Force and a Base Force are returning to South China. (D.N.I., 1104A/4 to S.O.Force Q.)

Station organisation. Proposals. (S.O. Force Q. 2248/4.) See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA aground. Your 2222Q/3. Comm. 10 has been ordered to send tugs and inform you of action taken. (B.A.D., 0115R/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
My 1716/3. Have got off and anchored East of Gun Cay. Proceeding into harbour at daylight for examination by divers. (INDOMITABLE 0140Q/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
My 2222Q/3. INDOMITABLE refloated. Tugs not now required. (C. in C.A.W.I., 0653Q/4 to B.A.D. Washington, 0703Q/4 to N.O.I.C., Trinidad, S.N.O.Curacoa.)

/Comm. 10.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

INDOMITABLE and CLARKIA aground. (Contd.)

Comm. 10 reports no tugs immediately available. N.O.B. Guantanamo ordered send available vessels and plane. Comm. 15 informed.
(B.A.D. Washington 0751R/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Kingston arrivals INDOMITABLE, CLARKIA, and TULIP.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 0800R/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE will need docking for examination request early information where this can be arranged. Suggest Opnav be consulted.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1637A/4 to B.A.R.M.)

HARDWICKE GRANGE.

Your 2332Q/3 (N.T. in W.D.) HARDWICKE GRANGE is now afloat and inflow of water under control. Captain will not move without direct orders from owners New York. Salvage vessel WILLET same ownership stationed Key West Miami may be available.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0935Q/4, 1125Q/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Suspicious tanker.

Your 1234A/1. Suggest this may be Portuguese Trawler SANTA PRINCEZA.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1019Q/3 to Admty.)

S.S. EVEROSA.

H.M. Rescue Tug PRUDENT sailed 1000Z/4 to assist S.S. EVEROSA off Belle Isle Straits.
(C.C.N.F., 1114Z/4.)
My 1114Z/4. PRUDENT now returning to St. Johns.
(C.C.N.F., 1857Z/4.)

SURCOUF.

My 0858R/19/10. Expect SURCOUF will be delayed five days and sail about 23/11 from New London for Bermuda.
(B.A.R.M. Washington, 1206R/4.)

Operation "Bellringer".

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1559Z/4 see South Atlantic.

CARTIER.

Ref. N.S.H.Q.'s 1340Z - 17/10/41 (ships taken in hand in Canada.) (A) CARTIER; (B) Pictou, Nova Scotia; (C) 3/11; (D) 12/12.
(C.O.A.C. 2101Z/4.)

CITY OF ALBERNI.

Following is a repetition of my 2109Z/3. Schooner CITY OF ALBERNI due Vancouver 20/10 from Apia has not arrived.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2107Z/4 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

CHEVREUIL. My intended programme is as follows: Leave Papeete 5/11, Makatea 6/11, Papeete 7/11, Suva approx., 16-19/11. Sydney arrive 25/11 approx.
(CHEVREUIL, 1600W/4 to N.Z.N.B. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BRADFORD CITY. Abandoned west of Walvis Bay. May have been torpedoed. See South Atlantic.

TREVERBYN. British, 5281 tons, which was reported missing from Convoy S.L.89 on 21/10 after the Convoy had been attacked by U-boats, has been overdue at Cardiff since 27/10. She sailed Freetown on 5/10 and had a cargo of pepel ore.
(D.S. 791, 5/11.)

Submarines Reported.

2026Z/3. By D/F within 60 miles of 004° N., 001° E., 75% reliable.
(C. in C.SA., 1003N/4.)

1044C. Bearing by D/F at 1044C/4 position enemy U-boat was 069° 14' 042° 24', reliable fix.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1141C/4 to NORFOLK.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1414A/4, 1415A/4, U.S.C.N.O., 2111/4.)

1427. One enemy submarine on surface, P.C. and S., 46° 45' N., 7° 30' W., 180° 3 knots.
(A/C N., Sqn., 1427/4.)

Submarines Attacked.

Have attacked enemy submarine in 46° 45' N., 7° 30' W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Estimate no hits.
(A/C N/19 1315/4, 1905/4.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation Q.N.

4 M.T.B's left Harwich at 1140A today to carry out this operation but had to return on account of the weather.

Dispositions to intercept enemy heavy units.

PRINZ EUGEN* was seen, however, in her usual dock at Brest at 1440/14 and 1250/15.

The U.S. C.N.O. appreciates the situation as follows (c.f. 3/11). The movement of enemy units may be for the purpose of raiding Atlantic convoys or convoys to Russia, for passing naval or merchant raiders into the South Atlantic, or for raiding lightly defended naval and air bases in the North Atlantic. It is thought that any or all of the following may be involved: TIRPITZ, SCHEER, PRINZ EUGEN*, other cruisers, merchant raiders and supply vessels. The continued success of the movement is dependent upon the continued availability of supply vessels. The closest possible direct co-operation between striking groups plus shore based air units, whether U.S., U.K. or Canadian is called for.
C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V with BERWICK, KENT, SUFFOLK, PUNJABI, MATABELE, SOMALI arrived at Iceland at 0730 today and VICTORIOUS, ASHANTI, OFFA and ORIBI at 1130.
The following dispositons have been agree upon.
(a) KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, KENT and BERWICK with 6 armed trawlers (?destroyers) left Hvalfjord at 1800 G.M.T. to pass through 62° 40' N. (?30°) W. at 1200/6, and 63° 41' N. 35° W. at first light each day, following up patrol by (b) EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and SUFFOLK south of Denmark Strait (to leave Hvalfjord at 1700 G.M.T.)
(c) KENYA and 2 destroyers are covering the northernmost patrol trawler lines in the Iceland-Faeroes passage.
(d) U.S. Battleships IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI and 3 destroyers to leave Hvalfjord at 1600 G.M.T. to pass through approx. 62° 30' N. 30° W. at first light and patrol to N.N.E. by day.
(e) U.S. cruisers WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA to leave Hvalfjord at 1400 to patrol N.E. of Denmark Straits minefield on the line Skago Fiord to Cape Barclay. In the event, C. in C. H. F. signalled at 2143Z that he was delayed and he returned to Hvalfjord at 2330/5. C.S.18 was also ordered to return to Hvalfjord, and C. in C. H.F. asked the Admiralty to pass to the U.S. C.N.O. his suggestion that the U.S. force should conform.

/P.35.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Dispositions to intercept enemy heavy units - Contd.

P.35 has been ordered to patrol off the northern part of the exit from the Skagerrak. Special air patrols were flown to the south coast of Norway last night by aircraft of Coastal Command. Air patrols have been arranged today East and Northeast of Iceland and across the western exit of the Iceland-Faroes passage (N.W. of Rockall). P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim were flown, but rain and snow storms rendered them abortive.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather affected operations last night, minor attacks were made on harbour installations at Ostend and Dunkirk and the Kiel area.

Aircraft of Coastal Command attacked shipping off the Frisian Islands after dark this evening but no definite results are reported.

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. GLEN CREE was attacked at 1830 today 10 miles N.W. of the Bishops and had one slight casualty but no damage.

MOST SECRET.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

17 aircraft laid mines successfully last night in Kiel harbour in spite of bad weather.

All Bristol Channel ports were opened from 1500 to 2300 today.

South Atlantic.

Lati Air Line. — The Admiralty are very seriously concerned at the continued delay in action to abolish the Brazilian Lati Air Line, the aircraft of which are assisting the enemy by R/C. The U.S.A. Navy Dept. concur in the necessity of suppressing the Air Line, but will not press their views, on the State Dept. until they can do so without prejudicing negotiations which are in progress for the use of bases for naval flying boats in Brazil.

Mediterranean.

S/M Operations. — Captain S.10 reports that on 25/10 TRUSTY torpedoed and sank one of two 5,000 ton south-bound merchant vessels escorted by a destroyer in 38° 24' N. 20° 13' E.

Air Operations. — At 0954 today 8 aircraft from Malta engaged on a shipping sweep in the Gulf of Sirte attacked two 3,000 ton escorted merchantmen 92 miles west of Benghazi, and left one sinking after 4 direct hits and straddled the second. Two Blenheims were shot down. The convoy was attacked again at 2010 15 miles S.W. of Benghazi, only one merchantman with one destroyer being seen, but results were not observed.

/Suez.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez Canal.

Traffic has been resumed.

Black Sea.

The Turkish Navy state that the Turkish caique KAYMOTHDERE was attacked and sunk in the Black Sea today off Midye inside Turkish territorial waters while on passage north, by a Russian submarine. (In broadcasts on 9/11 the Russians denied that the sinking was done by a Russian S/M) Caiques are believed to carry a considerable proportion of the Turkish - German trade.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.C.52 4 or 5 ships torpedoed.

N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. reports that the ships of S.C. 52 have returned or are returning with the exception of four ships torpedoed (and sunk) viz. FLYNDERBORG and GRETAVALE (reported 3/11), and EVEROJA and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK (date of torpedoing not known) and EMPIRE ENERGY and MAROUKA PATERAS which have gone ashore.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Flag of V.A.2. — Flag of V.A.2 will be transferred from RENOWN to DUKE OF YORK at 0900/6.
(V.A.2. 1346/5.)

A.F.D.4. absentees. — Your 2225/2 concerning absences of men from floating dock. The position is obscure in that some men stated to have not reported at Rosyth. Intend sending an officer to the dock tomorrow to investigate.
(A.S. Rosyth 1636/5 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

Allocation of Destroyers. — A.M. 1327A/1. Captain D. Greenock is the Co-ordinate authority for ships referred to in paras. 1 and 3 of A.M. 1327A/1.
(C. in C. W.A. 1635A/5.)

Destroyer Escorts of Atlantic Convoys. — Procedure in event of attack by Raider.
See Shipping.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Information requested. — Admiralty 2308A/16. Request information present location and composition of H.M.S. heavy units in U.K., Iceland, and Gibraltar areas during present situation.
(Opnav 1801Z/5 to Adty.)

Recognition Signals. — Following is Summary of British-United States Recognition. (D.S.D. 2336A/5.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanga. — I concur in recommendation contained in S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1645/2nd.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1821C/5.)

Defence of U.K.

Floating Gun Platforms. — Admiralty 1929A/23/9. Having obtained reports on Phillips Floating units consider they are unsuitable for employment in Scapa Flow as are also dumb Barges. Question of Maunsell Towers still under consideration.
(A.C.O.S. 1835A/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

RANUNCULUS
ROSELYS
HEARTSEASE.

Proceed Iceland to refuel.
(A.C.I.C. 0640N/5 to RANUNCULUS, ROSELYS.)
AMAZON has ordered HEARTSEASE to Iceland to refuel. Has asked for RANUNCULUS and ROSELYS to refuel also.
(A.C.I.C. 0644N/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

SUNFISH.
GARTH.

SUNFISH in tow of Tug on passage to Harwich with F.S. 38. (C. in C. Nore 0939A/5.)
SUNFISH in tow of STALWART is to be sailed for Sheerness to arrive by 1600/9. She will sail for Portsmouth with C.W. 57. GARTH is to be sailed for Sheerness as soon as possible after arrival of SUNFISH and CHAMPION.
(C. in C. Nore 1016A/5 to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

PRETORIA CASTLE.

Crossed 25° West. E.T.A. Belfast 1200 G.M.T./7th.
(PRETORIA CASTLE 1000Z/5.)

RODNEY.

Proceed at best speed retaining escort.
(1st S.L. 1032A/5 to RODNEY.)
RODNEY has been ordered to R/V with 3 destroyers in 55° 40' N. 17° 45' W. at 0900A/7. Intend to order her to Iceland unless you wish otherwise. (V.C.N.S. 2330A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)

KING GEORGE V.
BERWICK
KENT
SUFFOLK
VICTORIOUS.

Arrived C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V, BERWICK, KENT, SUFFOLK, PUNJABI, MATABELE, SOMALI at 0750. VICTORIOUS, ASHANTI, OFFA, ORIBI at 1130. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1117N/5.)

P.38.

(1) Intend to sail P.38 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1800A/7 for 342° Bishop Rock 7 miles. E.T.A.1900A/9.
(11) Thence LA CAPRICIEUSE return to Holy Loch.
(111) Thence P.38 diving by day through 050° N. 015° W. to patrol in area enclosed by 050° and 051° N. and 015° and 017° W.
(iv) P.38 will leave patrol area after dark/15 and proceed as ordered by Capt. (S) 5.
(vi) N.C.i/c Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.3. 1151A/5.)

TRINIDAD.

Intend sailing TRINIDAD for Scapa p.m./6th.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1356A/5.)

SEALION.

Your escort will be SHTORM or STREMITELNI class destroyers (2) U-boat reported in position 69° 55 N. 33° 30 E. at 1254C/ 5th. (3) No movements affecting you. Admiralty pass to SEALION on H.S. routine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1429C/5 to SEALION)

/FOXHOUND ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

FOXHOUND. — Intend to sail FOXHOUND for Greenock by Swept Channels at 1300 tomorrow.
(C. in C. Nore 1452A/5.)

MONTCLARE. CHELSEA. — Your 1600A/4th. If MONTCLARE requires to disembark ammunition, request she may be ordered to Plymouth by Q.Z.S.278 and that CHELSEA may remain in company as far as Q.Z.S.278. Ship should arrive before dark if practicable.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1512/5 to S.O.W.P.)

K.1. SEAWOLF. — (1) K.one leaves patrol. (?zone) 2 A p.m. Nov. 5th. route 72° 30' N. thence by route X to R/V R.one 1200C/7th.
(2) SEAWOLF from northward estimated 72° 30' N. 31° 40' E. at 2000C/7th by route X to R/V R.one 1000C/9th. Admiralty pass to TRIDENT.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1849C/5.)

P.36. — My 1145A/2. Will be 24 hours late.
(Capt. S.5 2036A/5 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operations.

Operation Q.N. — Prepare to carry out Operation Q.N.
(C. in C. Nore 1028A/5 to BEEHIVE.)
Departure M.T.B's 34,32,31,30. E.T.A. Yarmouth 1345. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1140A/5.)
M.T.B's 34, 32, 31 and 30 returned to Harbour owing to weather.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1356A/5.)
Cancel my 1028A/5. (C. in C. Nore 1537A/5.)

Dispositions to intercept Enemy Heavy unit. — Following dispositions have been agreed upon
(a) KING GEORGE V, VICTORIOUS, KENT, BERWICK and 6 armed trawlers passing through 063° 41' N. 035° W. at first light each day following up patrol in para (b) below.
(b) EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, SUFFOLK line abreast patrol 15 miles apart leaving datum line 145° from 065° 15' N. 032° 13' W. at beginning of morning (corrupt group) twilight. Direction of patrol 055° making good 18 knots till end of evening (corrupt group) twilight, then returning to datum line the following morning.
(c) KENYA and 2 destroyers cover (?northernmost) patrol trawler lines in Iceland - Faroe Islands passage.

/(d) ....

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Dispositions to intercept Enemy Heavy unit contd.

(d) IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI and 3 destroyers pass through approximate position 062° 30' N. 030° W. at first light proceeding N.N.E. by day.
(e) WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA patrolling North East of Denmark Straits minefield.
2. Ships leaving Hvalfiord for these dispositions at following approximate times today (all G.M.T.)
(a) 1800 (b) 1700 (c) On Patrol now (d) 1600 (e) 1400. Admiralty pass to U.S. Chief of Naval Operation. (C. in C. H.F. 1221Z/5.)
A. Proceed to patrol in vicinity of a line joining 58° 30' N. 05° 16' E. and 57° 56' N. 6° 21' E.
B. My 1244A/4. Supplement to W.I.R. No.64 dated 30th May 1941 Page 12 refers.
C. S.B.R. arranged in area 13 North of latitude 57° N. forthwith until further notice.
(F.O.S. 1241A/5 to P.35.)
Afternoon 5 November IDAHO, MISSISSIPPI, GRAYSON, MEREDITH, MONSSEN, UNDERWAY conducting patrol of area northeast of 62° 30' N. 30° 00' W.
TUSCALOOSA, WICHITA patrolling line Skago Fjord to Cape Barclay. Maintaining strict radio silence. (Opnav 1732Z/5 to Adty.)
I intend steering to Southward, altering course to pass through 062° 40' N. (?030°) W. at about 1200/6th, thence patrol as in my 1221N/5.
2. British cruisers continue patrol as previously. (C. in C. H.F. 1917N/5.)
With respect to current movements of German surface vessels and deployment of U.S. and U.K. striking groups, C.N.O. estimates situation as follows. Movement may be for (A) raiding North America, Gibraltar, or Freetown convoys or convoys to Russia. (B) for passing Naval or Merchant raiders into South Atlantic.
(C) for raiding lightly defended Naval and Air bases in North Atlantic. Movement may involve any or all of following - TIRPITZ,SCHEER, PRINZ EUGEN, other cruisers, merchant raiders, and supply vessels possibly concentrated but more likely in detachments. Continued success of movement is dependent upon continued availability of supply vessels. Escape of raiders into South Atlantic would be particularly unfortunate in view large merchant trade and weakness of Naval defences in that region. C.N.O. considers present situation requires closest possible direct co-operation between striking groups plus shore based air units whether U.S., U.K., or Canadian. Prompt information should be supplied in time to permit emergency diversion or dispersal of convoys. (Opnav 2005/5 to Cinclant, Spenavo.)

/AMAZON ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.11.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Dispositions to intercept Enemy Heavy unit contd.

AMAZON is being retained at Hvalfiord in view of possible operational requirements by C. in C. H.F. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2011/5 to C. in C. W.A.) See Shipping.
C. in C. H.F. 1221N/5. Ships sailed as in para.2. (A.C.I.C. 2029N/5 to Adty.)
Movements delayed. Am returning to Hvalfiord to conserve fuel. (ii) C.S.18 return to Hvalfiord. (iii) Suggest U.S. Force conform. (iv) Admiralty pass to U.S. C.N.O. (C. in C. H.F. 2143Z/5 to H.F.(except ships refitting or temporarily detached to another Command or Station), C. in C. W.A., A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth, F.O.C.N.P., Admty.)
C. in C. H.F. in KING GEORGE V., KENT, BERWICK, SOMALI, PUNJABI, MATABELE, ASHANTI, ORIBI, OFFA, returned 2330. (A.C.I.C. 2348/5.)

East Coast Patrols.

CAMPBELL and 2 M.G.Bs will be operating ahead and to seaward of F.S.38 during last 3 hours of darkness.
(C. in C. Nore 1239A/5 to WESTMINSTER.)
(1) 2 M.G.Bs Q.E.(12) with CAMPBELL. (2) 2 M.G.Bs Q.E.3 A. (3) 2 Examination Steamers Q.E.6 A.
(C. in C. Nore 1611A/5.)

Patrol off Portland.

My 1533A/5. Amend positions of M.L. Patrol to read 50° 23' N. 2° 05' W. 50° 20' N., 2° 50' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1757A/5.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Stab", "Bert", "Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0603/5.)
R.A.F. will institute Patrol "Polar" by Northrops from 1230N/5 to last light, and Patrol "Bear" by Wellingtons from 1200N/5 to last light, daily.
(A.C.I.C. 1116N/5.)
Admiralty have assumed responsibility for ordering and keeping C. in C. H.F. informed of further air R/Cs in connection with Fleet movements. (A.C.N.S. H. 1128A/5.)
Patrols "Sentry" 2 and 3, also P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim will be flown today.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1145/5.)

/Following ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols contd.

Following patrols are being flown from U.K.
(a) "Sentry" 2 and 3.
(b) "Rovik" 1 and 2, both moved 240 degrees 90 miles.
2. All above patrols will be in force by 1545 today.
3. "Rovik" 1 and 2 will revert to normal positions after 0100 tomorrow when "Rovik" 2 will be taken over by Iceland (C).
4. Following patrols have been ordered to be flown from Iceland. (a) "Polar" (b) Cross over patrol centred on position 65° N. 30° W.
5. P.R.U. of Bergen and Trondheim are also being flown. (A.C.N.S. H. 1356A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)
Following from H.Q.C.C. to R.A.F. Iceland.
Begins :- Patrols ordered are not now required.
Ends. In view of Admiralty's 1801A/5 and very bad flying conditions, night cross over patrol is not being flown tonight.
(A.C.I.C. 2009N/5.)

Bombing operations.

On day 4/11 no operations took place. On night 4/5 Ostend and Dunkirk were bombed.
(H.Q.B.C. 1520/5.)

Own A/C shot down.

Reported that one of three Spitfires escorting three Blenheims shot down by convoy escort twelve miles off Cromer at 1545/27/10. Request investigation with a view to identifying ship which fired and cause of incident.
(Air Ministry 1546/5 to Adty.)

A/C of 821 Squadron.

Six Swordfish of 821 Squadron are to proceed to Hatston at first light tomorrow to arm with torpedoes and then to fly to Sumburgh where they will operate under the orders of 18 Group.
(A.C.O.S. 2140A/5 to Hatston)

Signalling of letter of the day by final Convoy Patrol.

Addressed H.Q. 11 Group from C. in C. Portsmouth. Your 1015/4. (Proposal by C. in C. Portsmouth)
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2223A/5 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

CALIPH sunk.

(Trawler) When fishing 12 miles S. of Old Head of Kinsale at 1740 B.S.T/2nd in company with 14 other trawlers was sunk by near misses from two enemy planes believed to be Heinkel 111. Casualties 1 killed, three wounded.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1041/5.)

Convoy.

Fighters have been sent to the assistance of convoy "Pattern". (Rosyth W/T 1716/5.)

Mining.

Falmouth.

At 1628/4 one red Mine detonated in 50° 06' 12" N. 05° 0' 08" W.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1000/5.)

Bristol Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports including Port Talbot will be open from 1500 until 2300 today.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1132A/5.)
At 1310/5 one Red Mine detonated by Sweepers 056° 6 miles from Watchet Pier Light. Details.
(Capt. M/S 1617A/5.)

BRITISHER. (Mined 4/11)

N.C.S.O. Thames 2058A/4. Information received that BRITISHER was a wooden sailing barge with no motor and cargo of empty wooden boxes. Skipper of barge WILL EVERARD which was about one or two miles away at time states that BRITISHER was to the northward of the West Mouse Buoy and on edge of Maplin Sands. BRITISHER had disappeared when effects of explosion subsided. It seems probable that this was the mine reported by HOLDERNESS's 1059A/4 to Admiralty and Capt. M/S Sheerness and that it is more likely that the final actuation of the mine was caused by the barge herself perhaps due to vibration of Lee Board. (C. in C. Nore. 1154A/5.)

PORT QUEBEC.

A.L.M.08129/41 of 16th September. Intend to lay fields with PORT QUEBEC on 11 and 12/11 while on passage to refit at Southampton.
(R.A.M. 1636/5.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Steaming performances.

Steaming performances of WELLINGTON, MARIGOLD, and DEPTFORD during past seven months are most noteworthy. Steaming performances of WITCH, FOLKESTONE, LONDONDERRY, WESTON, SANDWICH, EGRET, BANFF, FISHGUARD, CARNATION, HELIOTROPE and LA MALOUINE during past three months reflect great credit on all concerned.
(C. in C. W.A. 1932A/5.)

Navigational.

White Sea Lights.

Following changes in character of White Sea Lights. Admiralty pass to all addressees.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2211/5.)

Casualties and Defects.

HASTINGS.

HASTINGS can be taken in hand for repairs to intermediate shafting at Devonport forthwith. Request you will sail HASTINGS accordingly.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 0951A/5 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

HAZEL.

Arrived HAZEL in tow of Rescue Tug RESTIVE.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1023A/5 to A.C.I.C.)

ENID MARY.

MADELEINE CAMILLE was in collision with S.S. ENID MARY at 1215/4th in Methil Roads. No damage to MADELEINE CAMILLE. ENID MARY damaged above waterline but is seaworthy and proceeded immediately afterwards in convoy.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1508/5.)

ENGLISH TRADER.
(Grounded 26/10)

Salvage Officer reports he inspected wreck of ENGLISH TRADER in position 52° 52' 40" N. 1° 55' E. Salvage of ship or cargo impracticable. Gun awash at low Water Springs. Consider salvage of gun impossible except in calmest weather and then only at considerable risk to vessel undertaking operation. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1700A/5.)

Unknown Ship.

Intercept 1729 G.M.T. D.E. unknown weak spark Station begins S O S ends. Bearing Northerly. No reply to requests for repetition.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1833/5.)

CURACOA.

Docked in No.3 dock today. (A.S. Rosyth 1935/5.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Pilots at Tyne.

Masters of ships bound for the Tyne should be informed that no restrictions is imposed by the Naval authorities on ships entering the port without a pilot if the port is open and no pilot is available.
(D.T.D. 1238A/5.)

EMPIRE BARRACUDA. EMPIRE PANTHER.

My 1526A/3. COLTSFOOT will act as additional escort to EMPIRE BARRACUDA and EMPIRE PANTHER proceeding to Gibraltar in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 2019A/4.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1248A/5.)

Destroyer Escorts of Atlantic Convoys.

In the event of Atlantic convoys being attacked by surface raiders of cruiser category or above, it is the primary duty of destroyers to shadow and report until enemy can be brought to action by heavier forces. It is not considered any useful purpose is likely to be served by daylight attack. With the advent of darkness, however, if the number of destroyers available permits, opportunity for night attack with torpedoes should be taken only provided that the effective shadowing of the enemy is not jeopardised thereby.
(C. in C. W.A. 1548/5 and 1739/5.)

Zig-zag instructions.

Admiralty Message "HD". In Area 6, when northward of 35 degs. South and between 20 degs. East and 10 degs. West, merchant ships routed independently or after dispersal from convoy are to zig-zag by day and on moonlight nights. Instructions in C.A.M.S.I. 487 remain in force.
(D.T.D. 1755Z/5.)

Sailings from Iceland.

My 1917N/4th. Have cancelled sailing of 7 knot ships. CAPE WARWICK, ANGLE will escort 10 knot ship to H.X.157. Fish Carrier LIVERPOOL ready to sail. AMAZON (?is) being retained at Hvalfjord in view of possible operational requirements by C. in C. H.F.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 2011/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CLYDE. Your 1306/3. CLYDE should be sailed on 9/11 for patrol in Bay of Biscay West area.
2. Limits of longitude in para. 2 of A.M. 2249/15/8 should be amended for this patrol to 06° W., and 08° W. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1134A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

LEITH, S.L.91 G. P.C. and S. at 1200A/5, 036° 24' N.,016° 06' W., 280° 10.2 knots. Do not expect to contact S.L.91 G. before 7th. Weather report. (LEITH, 1204A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Shipping. Passing Gibraltar westbound at 0815/3. (D.O.R., 5/11)

Suspicious Tanker, Destroyers. R.A.F. reports at 1300 unidentified 10,000 ton tanker escorted by small destroyer ten miles off Burline Island, course S.S.W. At 1540 two destroyers from Cadiz, P.C.S. 300° six miles, 300° 20 knots, and 230° five miles 325° 18 knots respectively. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1831A/5 to Admty).

DUNCAN, SIKH. Return to Gibraltar with despatch. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1950A/5 to DUNCAN, SIKH). Modified by 1755A/6.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN (raider report 4/11) Departures 0956/4 DUNEDIN, PRINCESS BEATRIX, QUEEN EMMA. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 0431N/5).
(Following has been received from Portishead Radio)
My 0530/4. Amended position my 0630/4. One shot fired from 2 points abaft port beam. Our position and course 003° 05' N., 022° 35' W., 260°. Evading action taken, no further shots fired, no ship sighted dark, dawn, daylight. Suspect S/M on surface. W/T message thought vicinity repeatedly received from callsign NERK. Message begins: Steer S.W. coming to your assistance, speed 30 knots. This message ignored, not coded. NERK also called Freetown W/T Stations.
(OLWEN, 1030/5 to C, in C. S.A.)

/My.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN (raider report 4/11). Contd.	My 1421/4. (Cancellation of QQQQ) Add to second sentence, "As far as is known at Freetown" (C. in C. S.A., 1204N/5 to Admty). U.S. Cruiser MEMPHIS, destroyers DAVIS and JOUETT searched vicinity of attack on Oiler OLWEN till 1900/4 with no result, then proceeded course 258° 15 knots. U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and Destroyer SOMERS looking for survivors in position of attack A.M./5, then proceeding to 005° 00' S., 034° 00' W. (C. in C. S.A., 1401N/5 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS BEATRIX.) If no further news by dusk tomorrow, (i) DORSETSHIRE and CANTON search on northerly course between 26° 30' W., and 30° W., to lat. 2° N., then DORSETSHIRE return to Freetown CANTON continue patrol in H.34 C. (ii) DUNEDIN with QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX search on northerly course to lat. 5° N., thence returning Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1703N/5 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN).
PHOEBE.	Departure 5th PHOEBE, Freetown 0800/7. (N.O.I.C. Lagos, 1130Z/5 to Admty).
M.Ls. Monrovia ACADIA.	M.L.s. 272 and 242 arrive off Monrovia 0600/6 to patrol to seaward during stay of ACADIA. (C. in C. S.A., 1147N/5 to VIMY). My 1147/5. A Sunderland will also be patrolling off Monrovia and in sector A. (C. in C. S.A., 1857N/5 to VIMY)
Operation "Bellringer".	Your (?602) (N.T. in W.R.). After recovering your personnel from COMMANDANT DORISE on arrival East London, CARNARVON CASTLE is to proceed Simonstown. Report E.T.A. when known. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1159B/5 to CARNARVON CASTLE). Request details of any acts of resistance to boarding and search by each ship of French Convoy by name, including summary of damage to any ship and estimated time to repair. (D.E.W.D., 2034A/5 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/BEVER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

BEVER, BOKSBURG.	Request permission be obtained for H.M.South African ships BEVER and BOKSBURG, L L whale catchers on loan to Admiralty for service in Mediterranean, to fuel at Beira on passage. (2) Vessels will be ready to sail 7/11 from Durban, maximum endurance 1200 miles. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1650B/5 to Admty).
CINCINNATI, Task Force 3.	A.T. 2115A/11/10. CINCINNATI only left Trinidad 4/11 to arrive Pernambuco 12/11. (D.O.D. (F) 1657A/5 to C, in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)
AFRICAN PRINCE.	Overdue shipping, my 0925/4, AFRICAN PRINCE arrived Capetown. (S.O.(I), Capetown, 1715B/5 to Admty etc).
O.S.Convoys, Freetown.	The number of ships in O.S.Convoys makes it necessary for the convoy to enter Freetown in two halves in order to prevent unnecessary movements of ships whilst in submarine waters and innumerable signals. Request A.l. forms be so arranged by N.C.S.O. Liverpool that convoy can be split into fast and slow sections with a minimum of signalling and for alterations of positions. (C. in C. S.A., 1755N/5 to Admty) Reply 2207/8.
SHAHRISTAN survivors.	Your 1058A/30/10 and my1116N/1. Is DESIRADE required to call at Ponta Delgada? (C. in C. S.A., 1901N/5 to Admty).
Force G. O.S.9.	Arrivals 5/11 Force G BRILLIANT, HOLLYHOCK, CLOVER, BURDOCK with convoy O.S.9. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 2351N/5 to Admty etc).

MOST SECRET.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

PORPOISE.	Capt. (S) 1's 1229B/3. (?Owing to) movement of 10th S/M Flotilla cancel second position and proceed through 035° 00' 018° 00', 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° N., 014° 14' to arrive Grand Harbour 0730B /9. (Capt. S.10, 1020B /5 to PORPOISE.)
S/Ms.	Your 1310A/3 to C. in C. Med., (Netherlands S/M O21. to patrol if area not required by 10th S/M Flotilla) Future commitments indicate no S/M of 10th S.F. will be operating north of Sicily during dates mentioned. (Capt. S.10 1037B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Jewish Immigrants.	My 1850/11/9. Unlikely that any suitable shipping will be available in near future to move 793 illegal Jewish immigrants ex Palestine to Mauritius unless (a) returning vessel of W.S. or C.M. convoy can proceed Mauritius, or (b) they are shipped to South Africa for onward passage provided vessel can be allocated for oncarriage. Request instructions. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1150B/5 to D. of S.T.)
SENNEVILLE, French protest.	My (?1216)/27. I have received protest concerning attack by aircraft 2/11 off Tunisian coast (?on) French steamship SENNEVILLE escorted by torpedo boat. Translation of note telegraphed to F.O. by Charge d'Affaires. (N.A. Madrid, 1157/5 to Admty).
Free French at Djibouti and Zeila. Use of Tugs.	Your 1931/19 and C. in C. E.I. 1910/17. Concur that establishment of Free French Naval Base at Zeila is most undesirable in present circumstances. Ref. Para. (ii) (c) of C. in C. E.I. 1910/17, vessels captured by British warships are at your disposal. The primary consideration is, of course, to use these vessels where they will best serve the common war effort. You may, therefore, employ them as your requirements dictate, handing them over for operation by Free French Forces if this suits your purpose, but not otherwise. (Head of M. (86) Approved V.C.N.S., 1215A/5 to C. in C. Med).

/DIVONA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

DIVONA (attacked by A/C 21/10).

My 1216/27/10 (N.T. in W.D.)
V. Admiral Derrien commanding Bizerta reports attack on DIVONA involved three torpedo attacks and could not have been mistake.
Request instructions whether I can say we will attack all vessels sighted in declared areas irrespective of nationality unless voyage previously advised.
Also whether presence of escort affects position.
(N.A. Madrid, 1233/5 to Admty).

Suez Canal U.X.B. Report.

Ref. Para. (d) my 1329B/4, suspicion of U.X. object not confirmed, canal traffic has therefore been resumed.
(S.B.N.O. Suez, 1243B/5 to Admty etc).

Air Operations.

Night 2/3. Visibility bad. 3 F.A.A. Albacores bombed enemy M.T. park near Gambut starting several fires. One Blenheim bombed Derna aerodrome starting small fire south of hangars.
Day 3/11. At midday 6 Marylands dropped 12,000 lbs. bombs on stores dumps on coast road 10 miles North of Benghazi.
Night 3/4. Weather and visibility bad. F.A.A. Albacore dropped flares to lightup dumps South of Tobruk Bardia Road for attack by 6 Blenheims. Bombs straddled dumps causing explosions and fires shortly after dark.
Approx. 10 enemy aircraft bombed landing grounds in Fuka Area in 2 waves with an interval of an hour seriously damaging 1 Blenheim, 2 Hurricanes. 3 Hurricanes, 3 Blenheims slightly damaged. No casualties.
Day 4/11. In early afternoon 9 Marylands dropped 16 - 500 lb and 14 - 250 lb bombs on workshops and buildings North West of Berka aerodrome Benghazi. (H.Q., RA.F., M.E., 1303/5).
Day 4/11 (continued) 6 Marylands attacked dumps and M.T. near Gazala starting several small fires.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1304/5).

Enemy Destroyers.

P.C. and S. of 3 enemy destroyers, line abreast 37.30 N., 16.20 E., 300 19.
(Malta, 1341B /5 to Med., Fleet).

/GLAUCOS.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

GLAUCOS. GLAUCOS sails 1630B/5 and proceeds end of searched channel through 035° 28' 026° 35' thence carry patrol in the vicinity of Candia and Lampedusa, Suda Bay, until p.m./14, when she is ordered to proceed Malta, passing through 035° 47' 02, 0° 10' or 00' at approx. noon/16 to arrive a.m./19 as routed by Capt. (S) 10. (Capt. S.1., 1421B/5 to C. in C. Med).

TORCELLO, (Italian) My 1220/2 TORCELLO left for Varna 5/11. -(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1545/5, to S.O.(I) Med).

2 M/Vs attacked. Night 4/5. Eight (Blenheims?) on shipping sweep Gulf of Sirte found andaattacked two M.Vs. 3,000 tons escorted by one destroyer 0954 hrs. 264°. Benghazi 92 miles. 27 250 lbs. bombs dropped mast high. DR. machine gunned. Four direct hits, one left sinking rapidly with black and white smoke covering the whole vessel. -Second M.V. straddled by two aircraft. 2 Blenheims missing hit by A.A. and dived into sea. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1700/5) See also 1700/6.

M/V sunk by TRUSTY, 25/10. C.A.F.O. 1278/41. 25/10/41. 2 5,000 tons laden southbound M/Vs. escorted by 1 destroyer in 38.24 N., 20.13 E., 3 torpedoes at each M/V by TRUSTY. Missed first ship hit second 2 torpedoes, M.V sank in about 12 minutes. (Capt. S.10., 1725B/5 to Admty).

Intelligence. My 1219/18/10, Para. 10. Following re-arrangement of intelligence organisation is to take place. (C. in C. Med., 1731B/5, to Med., Stn. etc) See Lion Copy.

FRONSAC, French. Departure 4/11 Sete. (Barcelona, 1821/5 to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Addu Atoll.

(1) Addu Atoll will shortly be established as defended port.
(2) Until Port War Signal Station and War Signal Station are established following instructions for entry and approaching are to be observed.
(a) Ships are to approach Atoll within sector formed by lines 050° and 130° from centre Gan Island.
(b) Ships are not to approach within 15 miles of Atoll until within above sector.
(c) Ships are to be prepared to carry out challenge and reply procedure with S.N.O. Ship anchored near Gan will be passed.
(3) Chart Z 14 late C.B. 04042 refers.
(4) S.N.O. is established in one of H.M. Ships stationed at Addu Atoll. CORFU is at present S.N.O.
(5) S.N.O. is responsible for defence port T and will administer port notwithstanding seniority.
(6) H.M. Ships visiting anchorage are to comply as far as possible with local instructions issued by S.N.O. but are to act independently as regards notice for steam, W/T watch and operation outside precincts of ports.
(C. in C. E.I., 0742Z/5, to E.I. Sqdn.)
My 0742/5.
(i) Existence of anchorage is to be kept as secret as possible.
(ii) Anchorage is also known as Port T, which name should generally be used. The 2 names should not both appear in same communication.
(iii) Messages for S.N.O. Port T should be made to C. in C. E.I. for onward transmission.
(C. in C. E.I., 0744Z/5, to E.I. Sqdn.)

China.

AQUITANIA.

Your 1456A/4 (N.T. in W.D.). AQUITANIA can be taken in hand provided period clear QUEEN (MARY ?) vide Admty. 0139A/30/10.
(R.A. Malaya, 0321Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

/TOMISLAV.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

TOMISLAV.

Columbia American broadcast states Japan has forced the Italians to hand back the Yugoslav ship TOMISLAV to its own crew at Shanghai. It was recently reported that this ship had been taken over by officers and men from the Italian CONTE VERDE on behalf of Lloyd Triestino.
(D.S. 791, 5/11.)

French Shipping.

Arrival 4/11 KHAI DINH, KINDIA.
(Saigon, 1019Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

America and West Indies.

S.C. 54, escort.

In view of return to Sydney (C.B.) of S.C. 52 I presume S.C. 54 will be largely augmented. I hoped to be able to produce a larger escort but best I can foresee is 2 destroyers and 7 or 8 corvettes.
(C.C.N.F., 0048Z/5 to Com. Task Force 4.)
W.D. Note: S.C.52 was attacked by S/Ms. 3/11, scattered and made for Sydney.

C.T.5, W.S.12X, T.C.15.

My 1833Z/3. Request approval as immediate revised instructions for whole operation and for railways of paramount importance.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0201Z/5 to Admty.)

INDOMITABLE, Aircraft. (Ship grounded 3/11.)

INDOMITABLE 1903R/4 being passed to B.A.D. Washington. Propose INDOMITABLE disembark all aircraft at R.N.A.S. Palisadoes and proceed to U.S. for repair.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0932Q/5 to Admty.)
Your 1637A/4. INDOMITABLE can be accepted for docking at Norfolk. Job number S.139. She can probably be docked on arrival provided she arrives by 11/11, otherwise docking will be delayed until 16/11.
(B.A.R.M., 1202R/5 to Admty.)

/Your.....

MOST SECRET

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

INDOMITABLE, Aircraft. (Ship grounded 3/11.) Contd.

Your 0932Q/5. U.S. Authorities concur A/C remaining on board and being landed at the operational base Norfolk where training can continue.
(B.A.R.M., 1436R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I., INDOMITABLE.)
Request you will sail INDOMITABLE as soon as practicable for Norfolk (Va.) at which port American Authorities in London anticipate dock will be available.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1750A/5 to N.O.I.C. Jamaica.)
A.M. 1750A/5. Intend to sail 1600R/6. E.T.A. Norfolk, Virginia, 1200R/10. B.A.R.M. Washington's 1436R/5, request instructions for disembarkation of Squadrons on arrival be signalled.
(INDOMITABLE, 2008R/5, to C. in C. A.W.I.)
In view of B.A.R.M.'s 1202R/5 and 1436/5 intend INDOMITABLE should retain aircraft on board and sail so as to arrive Norfolk p.m./10.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2142Q/5 to Admty., INDOMITABLE.)

CIRCASSIA.

On arrival at Trinidad complete with fuel and await further instructions.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/5 to CIRCASSIA.)

T.C. 15.

Your 1833/3. Ships of T.C. 15 have to turn round very quickly after arrival U.K. Essential therefore that T.C. 15 should sail as early as possible. 2. Delay in embarkation must be accepted if unavoidable but request if possible convoy sails p.m./13/11 instead of a.m./14/11.
(D.S.T., 1213A/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
Your 1213/5. T.C. 15 will be sailed not later than 2200Z/13 and every effort will be made to anticipate this time. C.O.A.C. will report as soon as possible definite time of departure.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2021Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

DESPATCH.

DESPATCH leaves Bermuda p.m./7, and proceeds to Trinidad via Sombrero channel so as to arrive a.m./11. Completes fuel on arrival.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1232Q/5 to Commodore, West Indies.)

Otter Trials.

Request early information of the results the Americans obtain in their trials of the SEA OTTER II.
(V.C.N.S., 1338A/5 to B.A.D.)

/CATHAY.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

CATHAY. Your 1232A/30/10. As machinery repairs in hand have immobolised ship it will expedite her return to trade if conversion work is carried out concurrently in Navy Yard, Brooklyn. Under the terms of Lend Lease for repairs to ships under B.A.R.M., CATHAY must retain Naval status otherwise she will have to be handed over to M. of W.T. and the work carried out by the Maritime Commission. If conversion is to be undertaken in U.S.A. in the Navy Yard a reasonable crew for security etc. must be retained. M. of W.T. New York has been consulted and concurs. (B.A.R.M., 1432R/5 to Admty.)

CLARKIA (grounded 3/11.) Diver's examination of CLARKIA is incomplete but she does not appear to be damaged other than loss of asdic dome and superficial scoring. Hull is not leaking.
(INDOMITABLE, 1705R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE 1705R/5. CLARKIA is to be sailed for Bermuda for examination as soon as possible.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2212Q/5 to N.O.I.C. Kingston.)

INDOMITABLE, CLARKIA. Report of grounding, K.R. and A.I. 1170. (INDOMITABLE, 2025R/5.) See Lion Copy.

W.S. 12X, fuelling. My 2328/26/10 tanker SCOTTISH CHIEF due about 11/11 may be retained for fuelling.
(D. of S.T., 1802A/5 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

P. 511, P. 551. My 1905R/31 and Admty. 1151A/11. P. 511 and P. 551 can only proceed direct to U.K. by utilization of ballast tanks for fuel. This is not considered desirable in the North Atlantic in winter. Propose ships call at St. Johns, N.F. for fuelling and water.
(B.A.D., 1935R/5 to Admty.)
Approved. (1933A/7.)

U.S. Transports. United States Transports MOUNT VERNON, WEST POINT, WAKEFIELD, DICKMAN, LEONARD WOOD, ORIZABA arrived.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1942Z/5 to N.S.H.Q.)

/CITY OF ALBERNI...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

CITY OF ALBERNI.	My 2109Z/3rd arrived Esquimalt. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2007Z/5.)
TULIP.	Is to be sailed for Trinidad as soon as convenient. Stores may be embarked for transport to Curacao en route if desired. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2202Q/5 to N.O.I.C. Kingston.)
Lati Air Line.	Urgency of closing this service, in view of Lati planes reporting shipping to U-Boats, etc. (Head of M., 2325A/5 to B.A.D.) See Lion Copy.

New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.	Admty. 1251+A/31/10 and your 2227/30/10. Defects to LE TRIOMPHANT cannot be affected in New Zealand. The principal defects are (list). Can these defects be undertaken at Sydney? (N.Z.N.B., 0256Z/5 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.52.
FLYNDERBORG
GRETAVALE
EMPIRE
GEMSBUCK
EVEROJA
(torpedoed
3/11.)

Request immediate report of whereabouts and number of ships accounted for.
(D.T.D. 1850A/5 to C.C.N.F., N.C.S.O.Sydney C.B.)
FLYNDERBORG, British, 2022 tons, cargo of lumber. GRETAVALE, British, 4586 tons, cargo of steel. EMPIRE GEMSBUCK, British 5626 tons, general cargo. EVEROJA, British, 4830 tons, cargo of wheat.
(D.O.R., 5/11.)
Your 1850A/5. Returned from Convoy S.C.52 United States, BUMPWALK, EMPIRE ZEPHYR, BRITISH PROGRESS, CIRCE SHELL, Greek, ANNA MAZARAKI, EMPIRE HARTEBEESTE, DALFRAM, MARYLYN, EMPIRE WILDBEESTE, DENPARK, GUIDO, ESKDALEGATE, Greek MOSCHA D.KYDONIEFS, MERCHANT, BRITISH RENOWN, EMPIRE BRUCE. Remainder returning less EVEROJA, FLYNDERBORG, GRETAVALE and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK, torpedoed; EMPIRE ENERGY and MAROUKO PATERAS ashore.
(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 2151Z/5, to Admty.)

MICHAEL L. EMBIRICOS

Greek, 5202 tons, with a cargo of sugar, also torpedoed in S.C.52 at 1558/3. (D.O.R. 5/11.) Torpedoing doubtful (D.O.R. 6/11.)

BRADFORD CITY.

British, 4953 tons. From incomplete intercepted messages it appears that this vessel was torpedoed about 300 miles W. of Walfisch Bay, S.W. Africa, at 0730/3, while on passage from Mauritius to Freetown with a cargo of sugar. (D.O.R., 5/11.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., position of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1445A/5, 1446A/5.)

1045.

P.M.S. GLENAVON sighted ship's wake 100 yards long 1-1/2 miles distant when near 20 T Buoy at 1045/5. Suspected submerged submarine. Estimate C.4.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2045/5, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The Flag of V.A.2 was transferred from RENOWN to DUKE OF YORK at 0900 today.

EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD and SUFFOLK arrived at Iceland at 1026N today.

North Russia. In view of ice conditions arrangements have been made for the normal base for destroyers and minesweepers to be Molotovsk.

SEALION arrived at Polyarno this morning.

British Air Operations.

21 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Cherbourg last night. A convoy was attacked South of Terschelling and one ship, believed to be a tanker, was hit and set on fire from stem to stern.

Mining.

4th M/S F. Operation. In view of the importance of the operation of the 4th M/S F, clearing a passage in the minefield N.W. of the Faeroes, not being reported by enemy aircraft, and since increased enemy air R/C is probable in connection with the present situation (see Home Commands 3/11) the C. in C. H.F. ordered the 4th M/S F. to remain in the Faeroes. Bad weather and tides have hindered the work greatly.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - contd.

Last night, 20 Hampdens laid mines in Kiel harbour, one in the Great Belt and one off the Frisian Islands.

South Atlantic.

Task Group 3.6 intercepts German Supply ship.

At 0845 G.C.T. Task Group 3.6 consisting of U.S. cruiser OMAHA and U.S. destroyer SOMERS intercepted in 0° 35' N. 27° 45' W. the German Supply ship ODENWALD disguised as S.S. WILLOW or WILMOTO. The ship attempted to scuttle and a salvage party is trying to save her. Task Group 3.6 is short of fuel and DORSETSHIRE and/or CANTON have been ordered to close and render assistance; in the event, however, their assistance was not needed.

Mediterranean.

5 Naval aircraft last night attacked Augusta and Licata, obtaining hits on the submarine base at Augusta.

Italian blockade runners.

There are indications that Italian ships pass across the Mediterranean successfully flying false colours and sailing either in company with or in close proximity to French ships.

Greek Naval personnel.

The two ex-U.S.A. S/Ms are to be manned by Greek naval personnel.

/TETRARCH ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - contd.

TETRARCH overdue.

S/M TETRARCH, which left Malta on 26/10 for U.K., is considerably overdue and must be presumed lost. This makes a total of 33 British submarines lost, of which 16 have been in the Mediterranean.

S/M Operations.

C. in C. Med. reports that at 1315/15/10 TRIUMPH obtained 3 hits with torpedoes on a 6000 ton merchant ship escorted by 2 destroyers in the Gulf of Athens, but was prevented by counter attack from seeing the result. Two small caiques; one flying the Nazi flag were sunk on 23/10 in Petali Gulf.

At 2300/1 UTMOST shelled and saw 50 hits on a merchant ship torpedoed by URGE (apparently on 22/10) as salvage activities were in progress.

At 1050/28 SOKOL obtained one hit on an A.M.C. of the CITTA DI PALERMO class escorting a north-bound convoy in 40° 42' N. 13° 47' E. At 0200/2 SOKOL attacked an unescorted eastbound ship in 38° 5' N. 12° 3' E; the torpedoes missed, but the crew abandoned ship and SOKOL sank it by gunfire. At 0530/2 SOKOL sighted a large 2 gun U-boat abeam, 2000 yards distant in 38° 0' N. 11° 40' E, but having no torpedoes and only 5 rounds of ammunition she evaded.

TRUSTY sank one of two southbound laden ships in convoy in 38° 24' N. 20° 13' E. at 0640/25. Three other convoys were intercepted off the western coast of Greece but TRUSTY was unable to attack.

Libya and Western Desert.

22 Wellingtons attacked targets at Benghazi last night. Marylands attacked stores dumps near Benghazi today. 6 Blenheims bombed a dump at Derna last night.

Black Sea.

An unconfirmed report states that the Italian tanker TORCELLO was sunk today by a Russian S/M.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

Hong Kong. Hong Kong has been reinforced and is to be regarded as an outpost and held as long as possible.

French ships carrying rubber to Germany. Germany is making strenuous efforts to ship rubber from Indo-China in Vichy ships. In future all possible steps are to be taken to intercept all Vichy shipping whether escorted or unescorted in the Sunda Straits or other passages through the Malay barrier, and if this should result in denunciation of the Decoux Agreement the Admiralty are prepared to accept the consequences. It is hoped that C. in C. E.I. may be able to co-operate with C. in C. China in intercepting ships in the Sunda Strait. The LOUIS DREYFUS vessels, which have very long endurance constitute a special problem, and a concerted effort is to be made to prevent the sailing of these vessels from Saigon to Dakar. U.S. are being asked to deny bunkers at Manila, but the possibility of supplies from Japanese sources cannot be ruled out.

A U.S.A. ship sighted a vessel acting suspiciously at 1900Z today in 3° S. 177° E.

America and West Indies.

Convoy S.C.53. New route instructions sent to S.C.53 at 0550 today were apparently not received. At 1156Z BURNHAM reported that the convoy was scattering in fog South of Cape Race and he was endeavouring to collect the ships.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Hudson on patrol in the Bay of Biscay depth charged a U-boat at 1015 today about 100 miles N.E. of Cape Ortegal. After the attack air bubbles came up for 20 minutes and a large patch of brown oil.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Rosyth Escort Force.

On completion of working up of EXMOOR request you will sail one WAIR to rejoin Rosyth Escort Force. (A.C.N.S. H., 1753A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

WIVERN.

WIVERN is urgently required for escort duty from U.K. to Gibraltar. Request you will report earliest date when vessel can leave Portsmouth. (D.O.D.H., 1846A/6 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

ROBERTS, EREBUS, for Mediterranean.

ROBERTS and EREBUS will be required to sail in company from Lough Foyle for passage to Mediterranean via Cape.
2. EREBUS should be ready to leave on 27/11.
3. ROBERTS is to carry out such working up practices as can be arranged in the time available.
4. C. in C. Nore is requested to sail EREBUS for Lough Foyle and to arrange the necessary escorts. (A.C.N.S. H., 1919A/6).

Co-operation with Russia.

North Russian Ports. EULIMA (Tanker).

Your 2359/29, my 18 of 1120/2 (1) Mr. Papangin confirms only 3 heavy ice breakers available, with possibility later of KRASSIN now repairing America. Only other ice craft are 3 auxiliary ice breakers of 2500 H.P. and 7 ice tugs about 1200 H.P. STALIN unable to come inside the bar.
(2) Russians state ECONOMIA will be ready by 15/12 with 2 quays 1500 feet and 1000 feet with 22 feet fresh draft alongside, also 2 fixed cranes of 30 tons each. The quays will probably be ready but personally doubtful of the cranes.
(3) MOLOTOVOSK expect ready first half of December for 3 cargo ships draft 22 feet fresh, about 3 cranes 6 tons each.
(4) Both ports will have double track railway lines along whole length of quays and small amount weatherproof. storage. Stores, water, bunker, repairs possible but difficult.
(7) Your 1949A/3 Tanker EULIMA. Can arrange, but advise earliest name of ship containing cylinder heads. (Maclay, Archangel, 1240C/6)

/River.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

North Russian Ports. EULIMA (Tanker). Contd.

River now solid ice up to one foot deep except fairly clear centre Channel. Escort cannot proceed up to Ekonomia without icebreaker but with latter can do so without danger. Minimum temperature 20° F. at night. Admiralty pass to C. in C. H.F. and C.S.10.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1350C/6).

White Sea Swept Channels.

See Mining.

Molotovsk Floating dock.

In view of ice conditions arrangements have been made for normal base for destroyers and minesweepers to be Molotovsk. Re. Charts App., Channel Fuel, Provisions. Repairs not involving docking can be carried out.
3. Floating dock has been moved to Ekonomia and should be usable in emergency throughout winter.
4. Admiralty pass to all addressees.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1520C/6 to Admty, Repeated S.B.N.O. N. Russia, Admiral Miles, C. in C. H.F., 1st M/S F, 10th C.S.)

S/Ms. for Caspian.

Following from British N.C.O. in Charge of Mission Cars evacuated from Gorki to Kuibeshev. "Our tow consisted of two oil lighters and in between them two half floating dock sections each containing one submarine astern of first tow a single small type submarine". The two large submarines are probably "S" Class boats recently completed at the Sorkovo works at Gorki transit on floating cradles or dock sections essential to pass such large draught boats over the shallow Volga Delta Canal and Northern reaches of the Caspian. Significant that action now being taken to station submarines in the Caspian to counter German action in these waters should Baku be occupied. Unlikely these submarines are ex-Baltic as although Marinski system dimensions would not preclude passage of dock sections time of transitting complicated locks liable to take anything from five to eight weeks. Possible that some Baltic submarines may have been evacuated by this route before Schusselburg was captured.
(Ad. Miles, 1539D/6 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

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6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE.

Delayed by weather. E.T.A. Londonderry 1300. Unless conditions improve destroyers cannot reach position Y by 0900/7.
(Capt. D.17, 0913A/6)
Arrived fuelled sailed ANTELOPE, IMPULSIVE, ONSLOW. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1710A/6).

H.34, H.50 H.33, O. 9 Z. 5.

At 2000A/9 intend to sail H.34 and H.50 escorted by Z.5 from Rothesay to Londonderry, arrive Lough Foyle 0800A/10. S. of A 8 knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection N.O.I.C. Londonderry is requested to sail H.33 and O.9 escorted by Z.5 to arrive Rothesay A.M./11.
(Capt. S.7., 1126A/6).

P.36.

Due E.A.4 at 0830/7 routed through 50° N., 2° W., 50° 25' N., 0° 23' W., and E.A.5.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1203A/6).

SEALION.

Arrived. Admty pass to all addressees except Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1149C/6)

MONTCLARE, CHELSEA.

Your 0609A/6. Proceed at best speed with CHELSEA. Lights arranged.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1256/6 to MONTCLARE).
At best speed amended time of arrival 2030A/6. Expect to pass Gaspar Strait 2145.
(MONTCLARE, 1738A/6).

LOWESTOFT.

Subject to satisfactory completion of working up intend to sail LOWESTOFT for Rosyth joining convoy W.N.2 P.M. tomorrow.
(R.A.D., 1310A/6).

WRESTLER.

Route to 50° N., 12° W., C. in C. Plymouth is requested to issue onward route.
(C. in C. W.A., 1915A/6 to WRESTLER)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit.

E.T.A., 0830 (?Z). Request GROTTA Light from 0730Z and Boom for 3 Cruisers inward at 0910Z. (C.S., 18, 0241Z/6 to A.C.I.C.)
Arrived EDINBURGH, SHEFFIELD, SUFFOLK 0830. (A.C.I.C., 1026N/6).
KENYA (?BEDOUIN) and INTREPID are to return to Seidis Fiord and complete with fuel. They are subsequently to sail as necessary to R/V with R.A.(M) and provide cover for operation S.N.83 B. while 1st M.L. Squadron is north of (?062°) North.
2. On completion of this duty they are to return to patrol as in my 1221N/5.
3. R.A.(M) is requested to arrange.
(C. in C. H.F., 1201Z/6).
My 1221N/5 para. one (b).
This patrol is intended to cover what appears to be the most likely route to be taken by ships breaking out under present conditions of ice visibility etc.
(ii) If for any reason you consider it advisable to shift datum line or direction you have authority to do so, only breaking W/T silence to inform me if you consider it essential.
(C. in C. H.F., 2305Z/6 to F.O.C.18 C.S.)

STUMOUR.

My 1241. STUMOUR postponed 24 hours.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1505A/6)

TUNAHOLM, VASAHOLM, (Swedish) intercepted.

TUNAHOLM and VASAHOLM intercepted by KINGSTON AGATE in 061° 38' N., 014° W., at 1550A/6. M/Vs. are proceeding to Skopen Fiord through 062° N., 013° W.
(S.O.N.P. 1857A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Stab" "Bert" "Stand" now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0815/6)

Own A/C shot down.

Air Ministry reports that one of three Spitfires from 152 Squadron while escorting three Blenheims was shot down by convoy escort off Cromer at 1545/27/10. Request matter may be investigated. (D.G.D., 1413A/6 to C. in C. Nore).
Reference to report of convoy proceedings for F.N.37 from LIDDESDALE para. (C) Requested that C.O. may be further interrogated and result communicated to Admiralty.
(C. in C. Nore, 1620A/6 to C. in C. Rosyth).

/T.B.R.....

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

T.B.R. To safeguard Submarines working from North Russia request T.B.Rs. may be instituted in area to north of 066° N., east of 007° E., forthwith until further notice.
(2) It may be possible to raise this restriction on request if it is required to operate shore based or shipborne aircraft against Submarines in this area at some future date.
(F.O.S., 1426A/6 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

GLEN CREE. S.S. GLEN CREE when 10 miles N.W. of Bishops was bombed and machine gunned by enemy plane at 1830/5. No damage, one slight casualty.
(F.O.I.C., Milford Haven, 1045/6.)

O.G.76 Indications considerable F/W activity vicinity O.G. 76. Take all necessary measures protect this convoy.
(H.Q.C.C., 1625/6 to 200 Group)

Mining.

S.N.83 B. Intend to carry out with MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN from 62° 50' N., 9° 53' W., to 63° 3' N., 10° 37' 30" W., sailing 0800/8, laying 1445/9, returning Port ZA 0030/11. Details.
(R.A.M., 0942A/6) See Lion Copy.
KENYA, BEDOUIN, INTREPID to provide cover north of (?62°) North. (C. in C. H.F., 1201Z/6)
See Operations.
C. in C. H.F. 1133/3. Request destroyer may arrive Port ZA before dark 7th.
(R.A.M., 0946/6 to R.A.D. H.F.)
Your 0946/6 and C. in C. H.F. 1133/3.
Destroyers will not be sailed A.M. tomorrow for S.N. 83 B until it is known that efficient A.A. Cruiser escort can be made available.
(V.A. 2., 1824A/6 to R.A.M.)

4th M/S Flotilla. My 1409 October 19. Probable increased enemy air R/C in connection with present situation makes further sweeping undesirable until situation clears. 4th M.F. should remain in Faeroes. (C. in C. H.F., 1107Z/6 to A.C.O.S.)
My 2022A/5. Operation cancelled for today Thursday owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1212A/6 to A.C.O.S.)

/Thames.....

MOST SECRET.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Thames Estuary.

1 S.A. Mine detonated at 1050/4. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1142/6).
One Red mine detonated in 51° 48.7' N., 1° 31.7' E., at 0730. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1337A/6).

Biscay minelaying. RUBIS, RORQUAL.

RUBIS will be available shortly for minelaying Biscay area.
Propose 40 day flooder mines be scattered within half a mile of line joining position
(a) 043° 25' 20" N., 001° 40' 30" W.
(b) 043° 27' 35" N., 001° 36' 20" W.
(c) 043° 31' 40" N., 001° 33' 45" W.
Date of laying approximately 28/11.
(F.O.S., 1657A/6).
RORQUAL will be available for minelaying in Biscay area before being taken in hand for refit. Propose 40 day flooder mines be scattered within one mile of following positions
(a) 045° 56' 20" N., 001° 47' 40" W.
(b) 046° 05' 25" N., 001° 57' 35" W.
Date of lay approx. 21/11.
(F.O.S., 1659A/6).

White Sea Swept Channels.

Following is a repetition of My 2327C/6 to S.B.N.O. Archangel. MS 1 0901C/3. You should inform Russian Admiral that unless very special reasons exist it is not practicable for our M.Ss. to (?word omitted) a second swept channel into White Sea and that to attempt to do so will certainly prejudice the efficiency of sweeping of both. Moreover the route mentioned entails undue vagaries to both M.Ss. and ships following them. Admiralty pass to C.S.1. ends.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2331C/6 to Admty).

Enemy Intelligence.

Rocket.

Am investigating one green rocket from surface bearing 292° 4 miles, 62° 20' N., 16° 07' W. Dr. (VASCANIA, 0707A/6).

Norwegian Coastal Shipping.

Following German orders proceeding Norwegian Coast Northwards (a) ORION left Scon October 29th with 1200 tons Diesel Oil from Norway and 7800 tons Deisel and Solar oil from Germany. Believed that this vessel will replace TIGER as U-boat Oiler.
(b) EUROSTADT should have left shipping ILENE October 31st with 1500 cubic metres Benzine ? for North Norway. B.2. repeat B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1251/6).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.11.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

E.A.5. 2 trawlers will mark position E.A.4 in Q Z S 169 from 0730/7. E.A. 5 is adrift from its mooring.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1203A/6 to HILARY)

Technical.

GRAPH. Your 1632/31/10. Pending test of internal main ballast tank and diving trial diving depth of GRAPH may be assumed 400 feet normal and 600 feet in emergency.
(D.N.C., 1304A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

Identification Strips. Following copy of surface ship recognition by identification strips received from S.O.P.A. Iceland. Request promulgation.
(A.C.I.C., 1947N/6).

Casualties & Defects.

MANXMAN. Now afloat. Isle of Man Steam Packet Company hope to sail her a.m. Sunday.
(VALKYRIE, 1043/6).

LEMNOS, THE MARQUIS. N.C.S. Steam Drifter LEMNOS was in collision with steamship THE MARQUIS at 0830 today in Methil Roads. Both vessels seaworthy and damage is apparently slight.
(N.O.I.C. Methil, 1116/6).

M.A/S B.1 My 1510/6. KKG M.A/S B.1 sprung leak due to weather. Engine room and after compartment flooded, water kept under by A.R.P. pump. Ship will be placed under 40 ton crane. Request slings for lifting may be sent Methil by lorry immediately. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1554/6).

H.M.T. FLOTTA sunk. My 1125/29/10. FLOTTA refloated. Now in tow of rescue tug ABEILLE IV, proceeding Aberdeen.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1710/6)
FLOTTA sank whilst in tow of ABEILLE IV position 3 miles 090 Buchan Ness approx. 2109/6. One dead and five believed missing. Lifeboat and escort continuing search.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2335/6).

/GALLANT....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

GALLANT FOX. S.C.51 S.S. GALLANT FOX steering gear broken down. Request tug routed through 56° N., 08° W. thence 260° to meet GALLANT FOX with ARABIS (standing by). ARABIS report position at 2100. (S.O. 8th E.G., 1728A/6).
Sail forthwith to assist GALLANT FOX. Approx. position at 1730A/6 055° 54' N., 010° 50' W. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1939/6 to FRISKY).
Your 1939/6. Sailed FRISKY.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 2224A/6).

Shipping & Convoys.

A.28. Is required for voyage commencing from Liverpool, about 18/11. She will be filled to capacity on leaving Liverpool, Total outward voyage will be about five weeks duration but 900 personnel will disembark after about eight days and remainder after a further eight days. Rest of voyage will be made empty of personnel.
2. Request report of firm sea speed vessel will be able to maintain when ready to sail.
(D. of S.T., 0339A/6 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool).

D.S.16 LEINSTER. D.S.16 will sail Clyde 12.11 Vessel to be used is not yet decided. LEINSTER will sail with D.S.16 but will remain in Iceland for coastwise service pending orders to return. LEINSTER will probably not take any personnel on outward voyage from Clyde.
(D.S.T., 0340A/6).

O.N.32. Serial number 4. Expect convoy 5 hours late at M.O.M.P. (U.S. Chief of N. Ops. 0630/6.)

P.Q.3. A.M.2318/3. Convoy P.Q.3 may sail at C. in C. H.F.'s discretion. (A.C.N.S. H., 1008A/6 to A.C.I.C.)
Your 1008A/6. I do not consider the cruiser and 2 destroyers required for ocean escort can be spared unless it can be confirmed that ADMIRAL SCHEER will not be accompanied by VON TIRPITZ. (C. in C. H.F., 2303Z/6 to Admty).

/P.Q.2.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.11.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

P.Q.2. Cargo being cleared by railway average 2,000 tons cargo per day. Anticipate all ships discharged by 8/11 and loaded by 14/11 with 6,000 tons chrome, 5,000 magnesium, balance timber. (Maclay, Archangel, 1240C/6).

H.X.157. Unable to maintain necessary speed for R/V. Am proceeding to position (H). P.C.S. 062° 53' N., 022° 32' W., 117°, 5 knots. (ANGLE, 14352/6).
Sailed CAPE WARWICK, ANGLE and 1 (one) Motor Ship at 0009/6th for H.X.157. (A.C.I.C., 1848/6).
S.N.O. reports via Aircraft H.X.157 10 hours late. (A.C.I.C., 2240N/6).

C.W.55. Completed passage without incident. (C. in C. Nore, 1509A/6).

H.X.157, H.X.158, S.C.53, O.N.30, O.N.31, O.N.32, O.N.33, C.T.5. Estimated positions at 1900 G.M.T./6. (U.S. Chief of N. Ops, 1631/6).

H.X.158. Opnav believes that escorts have not received diversion signals and estimates that convoy is following original route. (D.T.D., 1842A/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

P.Q.3. Your 1008A/6. I do not consider the cruiser and 2 destroyers required for ocean escort can be spared unless it can be confirmed ADMIRAL SCHEER will not be accompanied by VON TIRPITZ. (C. in C. H.F., 2303Z/6 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RODNEY, ARGUS.

Your 1032A/5 not received by Gibraltar W/T until 0110/6. It was then re broadcast for ARGUS and RODNEY. Estimate RODNEY entered home (? station) at 1800A/5 and may not have received signal. Exchange of escorts with ARGUS was expected at 0900A/5.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0322A/6 to Admty.)

GRETE (Danish)

GRETE, now at Valencia reliably reported from secret source taken over by Union Navale (? Levantino) and due to sail any moment. May she be attacked?
(Gibraltar, 1018A/6 to Admty.)
Your 1018/6. GRETE may be attacked outside the sink at sight zone provided Consul Valencia confirms crew is mainly enemy and that Spanish Flag is not being worn.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1714A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ARGUS.

E.T.A. 0030A/8. ATHENE, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, GURKHA, ZULU and ISAAC SWEERS in company.
(ARGUS, 1055A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S.L. 91G. AZALEA, etc.

Return Gibraltar by direct route at best speed at limit of prudent endurance or as follows: AZALEA as soon as any one ship of (? LEITH) CAMPION and HELIOTROPE has joined S.L. 91G; LADY HOGARTH and STELLA CARINA in company as soon as the other two ships have joined S.L. 91G.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1204A/6 to AZALEA, LADY HOGARTH, STELLA CARINA.)

DUNCAN.

Arrived.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1302A/6 to Admty., C. in C. W.A.)

COMMANDANT DUBOC.

Important defects, one engine, obliged proceed Gibraltar arrive 1400/7.
(COMMANDANT DUBOC, 1345/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SCYTHIA, CORINTHIAN.

Situation 2001A/6. SCYTHIA 23.20, 29.40, 348, 15. CORINTHIAN Patrols G X 2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1428/6 to N.A. Stn.)

/HERMIA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 6.11.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

HERMIA. Use of Tunisian Flag.

My 1208A/24/10.
Further evidence indicates that this was the Tunisian flag the red background of which was not evident in the air photograph. French S.S. CARTHAGE is similarly marked.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1502A/6 to Admty.)

Tactics for Destroyers in raider attacks on Convoys.

Following action is to be taken by destroyers in event of attack on our convoys by surface raider of cruiser or heavier type. It is their primary duty to shadow and make continuous and accurate reports of enemy until he can be brought to action by our heavier units. It is considered no useful purpose can be served by daylight attack. During dark hours or in very low visibility when number of destroyers available permits, the opportunity of attacking with torpedoes should be taken, only providing effective shadowing of enemy is not jeopardised thereby.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1630A/6 to N.A. Stn.)

Axis Shipping.

Amend list P No. 12 to Genoa 5/11. No 25 to West 6th. ? Add Levy 35 GUILLERMO SCHULZ to Genoa 6th.
List C C Levy 3 left Barcelona for Sete 846.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1708A/6 to OLYMPUS.)

French Shipping.

Gibraltar 0800 Sloop M/S LA SURPRISE, S.S. PLATON, KEROMAN, CAPITAINE ARMAND all laden Westbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1755A/6 to Admty., etc.)

DUNCAN, SIKH.

Request you will consider Admty. 1950/5 as cancelled when arrival of ARGUS convoy increases the destroyers available for screening Force H.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1755A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

OLWEN (Raider report 4/11.)

Opnav has been informed of OLWEN's 1030/5. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0131A/6 to C. in C. S.A.)
In view of Oiler OLWEN's 1030Z/5 which indicated that attack was certainly not by raider and may have been by U-Boat, act on my 1703/5 forthwith. (C. in C. S.A., 1133N/6 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON, DUNEDIN.)
My 1915A/4. OLWEN reports that she is proceeding and is undamaged. She made QQQQ on being fired at in dawn light by unseen attacker probably a U-Boat on surface. (D.D.I.C., 1231A/6 to C. in C. H.F., etc., etc.)

Force G.

Force G sail from Freetown p.m./6 for Capetown by following route: (A) 003° 50' N. 011° 20' W. (B) 006° 50' S. 001° 30' E. (C) 018° 50' S. 007° 50' E. EXPRESS and ELECTRA may require to fuel Walvis Bay for which purpose diesel oil will be acceptable. Request you will arrange necessary quantity to be available and for replacements in due course. (C. in C. S.A., 0947N/6 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)
Proposals for movements of Force G after arrival at the Cape. (S.O. Force G., 1200N/6 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.
Departure 1615/6 Force G. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1931N/6 to Admty., etc.)

ROBIN GRAY.

Overdue shipping. ROBIN GRAY due Durban 31/10 not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1225B/6 to Admty., etc.)
Reply: Ottawa 2034/7.

DESIRADE.

Your 1116N/1. It is not desirable to send this ex-Vichy Ship into Azores. Is there any other ship suitable? (D.T.D., 1616A/6 to C. in C. S.A.)

German Supply Ship Captured.

Task Group 3.6 consisting of U.S. Cruiser OMAHA and U.S. Destroyer SOMERS encountered German supply ship in 000° 35' N. 027° 45' W. at 0845 G.C.T./6. Scuttling attempted, salvage party trying to save ship which was disguised as S.S. WILLOW. Task group short of fuel and ? wishes to proceed Recife with rescued crew. DORSETSHIRE and/or CANTON close and render assistance. Report your position. (C. in C. S.A., 1845N/6, to DORSETSHIRE.)
See also America and West Indies.

/My.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

German Supply Ship Captured. Contd.

My 2145Z/6 (N.T. in W.D.) Am proceeding 24 knots so as to reach position beforedark 7th.
(DORSETSHIRE, 2330Z/6 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation "Bellringer".

Your 2034/5.
1. COMMANDANT DORISE.
(A) Passive resistance only.
(B) Damage. Relief valve thrown overboard. Condenser doors opened and attempt made to scuttle. Steering gear - 2 charges placed under rudder head quadrant, Port fair lead blown completely away. Starboard side track blown away. Hole in Deck.
(C) Expected time repair four days.
4. COMPIEGNE.
(A) No resistance.
(B) No damage. Demolition charges not fired. L.O.O. discloses attempt was made to run bearings hot without result.
3. BANGKOK.
(A) No resistance.
(B) No damage. Determined efforts at scuttling prevented by machine gunning boats in attempt to abandon ship.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2209B/6 to Admty.)
Your 2034/5. CAP TOURANE (a) Passive resistance. Capt. and Chief Engineer put under arrest for sabotage.
(b) ½ cwt. nuts and bolts put into double reduction gearing between O P pinion intermediate wheel.
(c) Time to repair will be reported later.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2318B/6 to Admty.)

S.L.92.

Departures 0575/6 with Convoy S.L.92, VANSITTART, VELOX, MARGUERITE, STARWORT and BURDOCK.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 2347N/6 to Admty., etc.)

ANTWERP, MALINES, BRIGAND.

Left Freetown a.m./6 for Simonstown via Pointe Noire for fuel thence direct. E.T.A. Simonstown 24/11. On arrival 4-inch H.A. mounting in ANTWERP requires lifting for exmsination of rollers. BRIGAND requires to boiler clean. Destination all 3 ships Mediterranean. Passage to be expedited as much as possible.
(C. in C. S.A., 2359/6 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

MOST SECRET

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TETRARCH overdue.

TETRARCH having failed to report and being considerably overdue is now presumed lost. (D.O.R., 7/11 - no signal in W.D.)

Suez Raid.

Egypt. My A.866, 4/11, para. 2. 2 enemy aircraft which operated in Gulf of Suez night 3/4 bombed convoy off Ras Gharib but were driven off by A.A. fire, their bombs falling in sea well clear of ships. One aircraft released bombs on Suez on return journey without causing damage or casualties. 12 Hurricanes on patrol between Suez and Port Said did not sight enemy.

Benghazi, etc. bombed.

2. Western Desert. Night 4/5. Weather and visibility bad over whole area. 12 Wellingtons attacked petrol dumps at Benghazi, Berka and Benina and 3 Wellingtons bombed stores dumps at Derna. 1 Wellington unable to reach Benghazi owing to engine trouble bombed Bardia. Of 10 Blenheims despatched to attack stores dumps at Gazala and Derna only 3 located targets. 1 Albacore on offensive night R/C of N.W. of Bardia bombed M.T. and stores near town.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1149/6.)

Attack of all M/V's. in declared areas.

N.A. Madrid 1233/5. Unless some such arrangement is made as in para. 2 there is danger Italian ships flying false colours will get through. There are indications here that this does occur at present, Italian ships sailing either in company or in close proximity to bona fide French ships.
(V.A. Malta, 1314B/6 to Admty.)

TORCELLO (Italian) sunk.

Turkish S.N.O. Upper Bosphorous informed Assistant N.A. TORCELLO sunk by Russian S/M 0100 this morning. Seeking confirmation.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 1559B/6 to S.O.I. Med.)
Confirmed see 1629/7.

Odessa Evacuation. N.L.O. to proceed Tuapse.

Your 1726A/24 and my 1203C/1/10. Crimea garrison then consisted of 51st army comprising 4 divisions. In addition there were about 20,000 home guard etc. After fall of Odessa two more depleted divisions arrived Crimea. Present situation obscure but Russians are defending Sevastopol and entrance to Kerch peninsula. Simferopol (corrupt group).

/(2) 800.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Odessa Evacuation. N.L.O. to proceed Tuapse. Contd.

(2) 800 motor transports and about 50 tanks were evacuated from Odessa. Everything not removed was destroyed. (3) Believed warships were moved in time from Spilupol to Tuapse. (4) Local authorities wish me to leave shortly for Tuapse. (5) Army have taken over defence of Sevastopol. (6) I anticipate fleet will move shortly further east.
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1604C/6 to Admty.)

Malta Raid.

Night 5/6. Total 2 bombers crossed coast, bombs land, no damage. 1 JU.87 shot down on land by A/A medium barrage. Italian crew both dead.
Day 6/11. 6 enemy aircraft approached did not cross coast.

Convoy Attacked. Augusta, Licata, Castel Benito bombed.

Night 5/6. Special Wellington bombed and machine-gunned convoy, attacked by Blenheims previous afternoon. 2010 hours 240° Benghazi 15 miles. Only 1 M/V and D/R seen 4,250 lb. GP bombs dropped mast high. Mist prevented observation. Results photos yesterday's attack show ship hit very hard and on fire and will probably sink.
5 aircraft F.A.A. attacked Augusta and Licata. Hits submarine base military barracks Augusta. Factory Licata fire clouds smoke visible 15 miles. Other bombs on viaduct West Bovalino. 18 Wellingtons attacked Castel Benito aerodrome for 5½ hours. Bombs burst among administration buildings workshops hangars fires and explosions ammunition dumps, Barranu buildings machine-gunned.

Pozallo bombed.

Day 6/11. Total 10 Hurricanes sweeps over Sicily. Attacks railway Station, machine Factory, East Pozallo. All aircraft returned from these operations.
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1700/6.)

GLAUCOS.

Did you have an encounter with our patrols off Alexandria about 2215/5? Reply immediately.
(C. in C. Med., 1730B/6 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS.)

/Employment.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Employment of Greek Ships.

Your 2201/27. Proposed employment of Greek ships is concurred in.
2. Please inform Adm. Sakellariou -
(a) Admiralty will arrange for 2 or 3 HUNT Class destroyers to be manned by Greek naval personnel in about 6 months' time.
(b) Two submarines ex U.S.A. will also be made available.
(c) The HUNTS and submarines will eventually operate in Eastern Med.
(d) We suggest that necessary personnel for these ships should be sent to U.K. as soon as practicable.
(e) We suggest that any surplus personnel which cannot be employed locally should also be sent to U.K. with a view to manning further ships, the types of which will have to be decided later.
(1st Lord, 1737A/6 to C. in C. Med.)

MAURO CROCE (Italian)

Arrival 6th.
(Barcelona, 1759/6 to M. of W.T.)

Turkey.

Re warships for and situation of interned French ships.
(N.A. Angora, 1837B/6 from Adm. Kelly, to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

German Forces.

Present disposition of German Forces (air and military) in Russia, Central Europe, Western Europe, and Libya.
(N.A. Ankara, from Adm. Kelly, 1845B/6 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Turkish Ship torpedoed.

Ankara radio announced last night (5/11) that the Turkish motor-boat KENAH DERE was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by an unknown submarine in the Bosphorus. The crew were landed safely. No Turkish naval vessel named the KENAH DERE appears in "Jane's Fighting Ships". It is possible, however, that the vessel is a recent addition to the Turkish Fleet.
(Daily Telegraph, 6/11) Also spelt KAYNAK DERE, see 7/11.

/The.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Turkish Ship torpedoed. Contd.

The sinking of the Turkish cargo ship KENAH DERE, 145 tons was explained by a statement issued at Ankara 6/11. A Russian submarine, it is stated, stopped the KENAH DERE off Cape Midia while she was proceeding from the Bosphorus to Rumania with a load of cotton on Nov. 2. After the crew had been ordered to take to the boats, the vessel was sunk with its cargo by five gun shots. An inquiry is proceeding, for the Turks affirm that the incident took place in Turkish territorial waters.
(Daily Telegraph, 7/11.)

Situation Report 164.

Operation "Glencoe" continues.
2. Unconfirmed report of U-Boat 32 miles W. of Alexandria at 2220/5. 3 Destroyers, 4 A/S Craft and Aircraft have hunted since without success.
3. Red Sea. Air attack on shipping in Gulf of Suez night 3/4, see S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1329/4. Hunts and CARLISLE engaged Aircraft which jettisoned bombs and may have been hit.
4. TRIUMPH encountered heavy A/S activity during patrol of Gulf of Athens and Aegean. Two small Caiques, one flying Nazi flag, sunk 23/10 in Petali Gulf. At 1315/15 in Gulf of Athens three torpedo hits scored on 6000-tons M/V escorted by two Destroyers. TRIUMPH sighted and bombed by A/C and D/C's unable to observe result. Investigation of several harbours produced no suitable gunnery targets. TRIUMPH surfaced alongside E-Boat at 0220/28 but was not detected.
5. At 2300/1st UTMOST shelled merchant ship torpedoed by URGE Friday my 2025/3 as salvage activities seen. 50 hits seen.
6. SOKOL scored one hit on (? A.M.C.) CITTA DI PALERMO Class in 040° 42', 013° 47' at 1050/28 escorting Northbound Convoy. At 0200/2 in 038° 05°, 012° 03' SOKOL attacked 3000 ton laden Eastbound ship unescorted. Torpedoes missed but crew abandoned ship and SOKOL sank it by gunfire. At 0530/2 in 038° 00', 011° 40' large 2 gun U-Boat sighted abeam 2000 yards but SOKOL having ? no torpedoes and only 5 rounds of ammunition decided not to ram and evaded.
7. TRUSTY scored 2 hits and sank 1 of 2 Southbound laden ships in Convoy in 038°24', 020° 13' at 0640/25. TRUSTY intercepted 3 more Convoys while on Patrol off Western Coast of Greece but unable to gain attacking position.
(C. in C. Med., 1926B/6.)

/Yugoslav.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Yugoslav naval personnel.

Admty. 1642/3/10. Proposals re Yugoslav personnel are concurred in. Written report which is that referred to in Capt. S. One's 1137/3/11 (to F.O.(S) only) is being forwarded by fast air mail. Copy to F.O.(S).
(C. in C. Med., 2301B/6, 1012B/7 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CLELIA CAMPANELLA salved.

Have (? Salved) refloated and (?today) seized S.S. CAMPANELLA as lawful prize. Expect to remove bomb and shift from (?quay) on 8/11. Report on state of ship will be sent after thorough examination.
(N.O.I.C. Massawa, 0901Z/6, to S.N.O. Red Sea.)
CLELIA CAMPANELLA, 3245 tons, sunk by external charges at the Main Quay, Massawa Island, and listing over quay, April, 1941. (D.S.,601, 28/4.)

Disposal of Aircraft.

C. in C.E.I., 1206Z/18/10, para. III. Subject to agreement of C. in C., S.A., the transfer of up to 10 Swordfish and 4 Walrus by HERMES from Wynberg to Colombo is concurred in. This should leave 6 Swordfish and 3 Walrus at Wynberg. At Freetown there are 5 Swordfish and 2 Walrus with 13 Swordfish and 7 Walrus en route. These latter aircraft may be transferred to Wynberg if so desired by C. in C.S.A. No further reserves can arrive Wynberg before March, 1942. It is not considered desirable to transfer engines from Wynberg to Colombo but arrangements for shipment of additional engines to Trincomalee are in hand.
(A.C.N.S. (F) (O.D.1288/41.) 1215A/6 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C.S.A.)

China.

Hong Kong.

Policy re defence. To be regarded as an outpost and held as long as possible. Reinforcement.
(W.O., 0345/6 to C. in C. Far East.)
See Lion Copy.

W.S.11X.

Convoy W.S.11 X arrived with MAURITIUS.
(N.C.S.O. Singapore, 0445Z/6, S.O.I., Singapore 1001Z/6, to Admty.)
7 ships, totalling 88, 576 tons, with troops and supplies for Far East. (D.S., 794, 7/11.)

Darkening Ship.

Master of Hospital Ship ORANJE informs me that he has had conflicting instructions re darkening ship. Request early information of current policy as ship sails tomorrow Friday for Batavia and Middle East.
(C. in C. China, 0731Z/6, to Admty.)

/Your 0731/6..

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Darkening Ship. Contd.

Your 0731/6. Each case must be considered on its merits. Although unilluminated hospital ships do not forfeit immunity reasonable complaint can not be made if they are attacked. Up to present attacks have been confined to areas of considerable belligerent activity where A/C and shore batteries have ignored convention. Hospital ships should darken ship if illumination would betray operational information.
(Head of M. Approved by A.C.N.S.(F) 2243A/6 to C. in C. China.)

Free French Movement.

Reply to Admty 2321/2. (C. in C. China, 0827/6.) See Lion Copy.

Interception of Vichy Ships.

The fact that Germany is making strenuous efforts to ship rubber from Indo-China in Vichy ships makes it necessary for us to reconsider our attitude towards the Decoux Agreement.
2. There seems now little hope of U.S.obtaining any rubber or of the French obstructing the Japanese advance. Nevertheless, it is recognised that the agreement still has some general advantages.
3. But the uninterrupted passage of Vichy ships from Indo-China to Madagascar and beyond, which may develop into a most serious leak in the blockade, cannot be tolerated any longer. Request therefore, that in future all possible steps are taken to intercept all Vichy shipping whether escorted or unescorted in the Sunda Straits or other passages through Malay Barrier.
4. Interception within the China Station of Vichy shipping trading to the ports outside the station is not contrary to the letter of the Decoux agreement. But if Decoux chooses to react to interception in Sunda Straits by himself denouncing the agreement we are prepared to accept the consequences.
5. Dutch Authorities have been presented with memorandum exposing unneutral activities in Vichy, and it is hoped that they will shortly agree to co-operate in the interception of escorted convoys.
6. As interception in Sunda Straits will, probably, relieve C. in C.E.I., of commitments such as operation "Snip", it is hoped he may be able to co-operate with C. in C. China in intercepting ships in the Sunda Strait.
7. C. in C.S.A., pass to S.O. Force "G" on arrival.
(Head of M. Approved by 1st Lord 1630/6, to C's in C, China and E.I.)

/My 1630/6.....

MOST SECRET.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Interception of Vichy Ships. Contd.

My 1630/6, and my 1636/2. LOUIS DREYFUS vessels constitute special problem and concerted effort must be made to prevent sailing of these vessels from Saigon to Dakar.
2. U.S. are being asked to deny bunkers at Manila but possibility of supplies from Japanese sources cannot be ruled out.
3. Attachment for debt of French vessels calling at Manila is also under consideration but unfortunately we have no claims against DREYFUS vessels.
4. Without knowledge of route taken it is not possible to issue definite instructions for the interception of these vessels. Authorities addressed are requested to use every endeavour to obtain and exchange intelligence of movements and to concert such operations as intelligence indicates might be fruitful, C. in C. China making as much use of Dutch co-operation as possible
5. C. in C.S.A., pass to S.O. Force "G" on arrival. (Head of M., Approved.
1st Lord, M. 1631A/6 to C. in C.'s China, E.I, S.A., A.W.I., etc.)

America & West Indies.

OLWEN.
(R Report, 4/11.)

OLWEN reports that she is proceeding and is undamaged. She made her QQQ on being fired at in dawn light by an unseen attacker probably a S/M on the surface. She received assistance signal from NERK.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0132A/6 to Opnav.)

S.C.53.

Serial number 4. Change route from new (z) 042° 30' N., 057° 00' W., then to (Y) and new (a) 037° 30' N., 029° 00' W., to new (b) 037° 50' N., 027° 00' W., new (c) 039° 40' N., 025° 00' W., new (d) 054° 00' N., 020° 00' W., thence to new (e) 055° 30' N., 008° 00' W.
New M.O.M.P. to follow.
(U.S.C.N.O., 0550/6, to Cmdr., Task Unit 4.1.14.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.11.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

S.C.53. (Contd.)

Convoy is scattering in fog south of Cape Race. New route instructions apparently not received. Am endeavouring to collect ships of convoy, weather report.
(BURNHAM, 1156Z/6, to Com. Task Force No.4.)
BURNHAM has found S.C. (?53) scattered in (?fog) 20 miles South Nasirah. Convoy apparently received no (?altered) routeing instructions. BURNHAM now endeavouring to reassemble convoy.
(C.C.N.F. 1443Z/6, to U.S.C.N.O.)

INDOMITABLE.

Your 0938Q/5. In view of B.A.R.M.'s 1436R/5, aircraft should be retained on board INDOMITABLE and landed at the operational base Norfolk.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0746A/6, to C. in C.A.W.I.)
INDOMITABLE 2025/5, which is being passed to you and Admty. INDOMITABLE will send you a copy of written report on arrival. Request you will appoint a Board of Inquiry and forward findings and minutes to me. N.O.I/C Kingston's copy of written report is to be forwarded to me.
CLARKIA's grounding will be dealt with at Bermuda.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1124Q/6, to B.A.R.M.)
Kingston departure - INDOMITABLE in accordance with B.A.D. Washington 1056R/6. Departure CLARKIA due Bermuda 1630R/10.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 1730R/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

German Supply Ship Captured, (ODENWALD.)

Task group 3.6 reports German supply ship in 00.35 N., 27.45 W., at 0845 G.C.T., disguised as S.S.WILMOTO. Salvage Party aboard making every effort to save ship which attempted scuttle by exploding bomb in after hold. If successful will probably need tug. Taskgroup 3.6 has fuel for Recife only and will proceed there with rescued crew.
(Opnav, 1134/6, to Admty.)
Your 1134/6. Congratulations. This is a tremendous help and may have a far reaching effect.
(1st. S.L. 1842Z/6, to Opnav.)
Cancel my 1701/29, 1911/29 and 2030/1.
Refer to my 1134/6. JOUETT directed to join OMAHA, SOMERS, which will proceed from vicinity 00.35 N., 27.45 W., to Recife. JOUETT joins CINCINNATI at Recife for Patrol duties. At 2000Z/5 MEMPHIS, DAVIS, at 01.15 N., 28.55 W., proceeding on course 275°speed 13 to Trinidad.
(Opnav, 2149/6, to Admty.)

/C. in C.South A's..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

German Supply ship Captured, (ODENWALD.) Contd.

C. in C. South Atlantic's 1845/6. Following received from Task Group 3.6. Flooding now believed under control. ODENWALD in 000° 43' N., 028° 30' W., at 2200Z/6, proceeding at 9 knots to Trinidad.
(B.A.D. 2309R/6, to Admty., etc.)

H.X. 158.

Serial 5. Believe local escort did not receive my serials 2 or 3. Estimate convoy is following original route. C.O.A.C. pass to ANNAPOLIS.
(Opnav, 1245Z/6, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.8,C.O.A.C.)
Serial 6. When R/V effected report P.C. and S.
(Opnav, 1322Z/6, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.8.)

O.N.33.

Unit 4.1.11 consisting of ST. LAURENT (S.O.) POLYANTHUS, PRIMROSE, CHILLEWACK, SNOWBERRY, TRAIL, ARROWHEAD, designated escort O.N.33.
(Opnav, 1707Z/6, to Admty.)

TULIP.

Ref. 2202Q/5 from C. in C.A.W.I., TULIP will carry out following programme, Kingston, leave a.m./7, Aruba, a.m./9-a.m./10, Curacao, p.m./10-p.m./11, Trinidad, arrive a.m./13.
Aruba and Curacao informed.
(N.O.I.C. Kingston, 1709R/6 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

BISHOP-DALE.

Oiler BISHOP-DALE is to be sailed from Bermuda on 8/11 for Kingston (Jamaica) to adjust crew, thence to Curacao and Trinidad to load, returning to Bermuda on completion.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1735Q/6, to N.O.I.C. Bermuda.)

CALIFORNIA.

My 1122R/2. CALIFORNIA sails from Boston 0600 zone 3 16/11. E.T.A., Halifax 1300 zone 5.
(B.A.R.M., 1737R/6 to Admty.)

ABBEYDALE.

My 0942Q/2. Do not intend Oiler ABBEYDALE should proceed to Bermuda if arrangements in A.M. 1715A/3 meet your requirements. Request early decision as loading programme of other oilers is affected.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1743Q/6, to R.A.S.A.D.)

/EMPIRE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.Contd.

EMPIRE CURLEW.

TC 14A. BR. EMPIRE CURLEW not safe under 20 fathoms.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1826Z/6, to Admty.)

O.N.31.

Recommend Commodore be directed to hold ships for Newfoundland Ports and not to detach ships routed through Belle Isle Strait pending further instructions. Destination of MAPLEWOOD is changed to Philadelphia.
(D.T.D. 1826Z/6 to Opnav.)

Task Unit. 4.1.14.

Your 0008/5. Not to Admiralty. Request confirmation that necessary diplomatic and other arrangements are being made for Canadian draft proposal of unit 4.1.4 to refuel at Azores. B.A.D. Washington pass to C.N.A.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1858Z/6 to Opnav.)

PRINCE ROBERT.

Your 0553A/24 and C. in C. China 0531Z/25. Request H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT may be returned to Esquimalt at your early convenience. B.A.D. Washington pass to Canadian Naval Attache.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1935Z/6 to Admty.)

Lati Air Line.

A.M. 2325A/5. Navy Dept., are in entire agreement with Admty., views on suppression of Lati but will not take action to press their views on State Dept., for a few days as they are reaching conclusion of negotiations with Brazilian Govt., for use of bases for Naval Flying boats (? in) Brazil. As soon as they can do so without prejudicing these negotiations they intend to press State Dept., to take action regarding Lati. I think this is satisfactory so far, am keeping Embassy informed.
(B.A.D. 1945R/6 to Admty.)

T.C.16.

Your 1541/29/10 and 1833/27/10. Following vessels are proposed for convoy T.C.16:-
3. Sailing date not yet definite but will be as soon after 6/12 as possible.
(D. of S.T., 2039A/6, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

War Diary.

6.11.41.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

MANOORA
WESTRALIA
KANIMBLA
MONTCLARE.

Your 1232A/30. Request confirmation that A.M.C's ?MANOORA,?WESTRALIA,KANIMBLA and MONTCLARE will all be attached to Australian station. Request 5.5 inch ammunition reserves and practice requirements and base spares of ordnance and gunmounting stores for MONTCLARE be sent to Sydney as none held here.
(A.C.N.B., 0149Z/6 to Admty.) Confirmed.
(D.O.D.F., 1602A/7.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.11.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.C.52. (attacked 3/11)

Further to my 2151Z/5, all ships S.C. 52 now returned less FLYNDERBORG, GRETAVALE, EVEROJA and EMPIRE GEMSBUCK torpedoed, EMPIRE ENERGY and MAROUKO PATERAS, ashore.
(N.C.S.O.Sydney C.B. 1426Z/6 to Admty.).
MICHAEL L. EMBIRICOS definitely returned to Sydney. S.C. 52 casualties as stated in N.C.S.O. Sydney (C.B.) 2151Z/5.
(N.O.I.C.Sydney C.B. 2001Z/6 to Admty. etc.).

Submarines Reported.

1025.

Am over enemy submarine in 45.30 N. 6.55 W. sighted on surface and observed to submerge, course 100° speed 8 knots.
(A/C 1025/6 to 19 Group).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1412A/6, 1423A/6, Washington, 2100/6 to Task Units).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A merchant ship of about 3,000 tons was sighted by A/C in 58° N., 6° 38' E., course 300° at 1240A today.

Dispositions to intercept enemy units.

At 1319A today RODNEY, proceeding to Aultbea (from Gibraltar) was ordered to be refuelled and sailed with the utmost despatch.
Extra air patrols were flown from 1600 today north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and east of Iceland, but the weather today greatly reduced the efficiency of air R/C.
BERWICK is to proceed P.M. today to patrol the Denmark Strait north of the minefield, joining the C. in C. H.F. if he proceeds to sea.

TRINIDAD.

The cruiser TRINIDAD, which was damaged by air attack at Plymouth on 30/4 whilst completing, arrived at Scapa today to join the 10th C.S.

British Air Operations.

Minor attacks were made on the docks at Le Harvre and ports in N.W. Germany last night by aircraft of Bomber Command.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two A/S Trawlers were unsuccessfully bombed at 0915 today in Skopen Fiord (Faeroes)

S.S. EMPIRE BUNTING in F.N.45 reported at 1123 G.M.T. today being attacked off Farn Isle.
It is stated that she was damaged and proceeded to Blyth.

/ALBURY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations - Contd.

ALBURY (4th M/S.F.) reported being bombed at 1842 in 56° 53' N., 1° 58' W. 4 bombs fell 30 yards astern, causing slight damage to machinery but none to the hull.

Dover was attacked by dive bombers between 2255 and 2301 today. No naval damage or casualties occurred.

It is reported that an Eire Govt. fishing patrol vessel shot down one of two aircraft which attacked her after unsuccessfully attacking a British coasting vessel near Copinbeg L.V. at 1945/30/10.
A Belgian trawler also reports being attacked by 3 enemy aircraft in the same vicinity at 1845/30.

Mining.

9 aircraft laid mines in Oslo Harbour last night.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft is suspected last night in the Thames Estuary and after dark this evening between the Tyne and Yarmouth. Hartlepool and Middlesborough were closed at 2253 owing to suspected minelaying.

Bristol Channel. Owing to weather conditions being unsuitable for minesweeping all Bristol Channel ports were closed at 0143A. All were re-opened during the forenoon.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

C. Verde Is. The coal situation in Cape Verde Islands is reported to be serious and the Govt. and military authorities may consider it necessary to requisition the Admiralty reserve stock.

Operation "Bellringer" Force F. All ships of the Vichy convoy have now arrived in port as follows:- BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE and COMPIEGNE at East London; CAP PADARAN and CAP TOURANE at Port Elizabeth. Force F was cancelled at 1524N and ships have dispersed.

The excellent work performed by vessels of the Seaward Defence Force and long range aircraft of the South African Air Force formed an essential part in the interception of this convoy.

Mediterranean.

5 Naval aircraft attacked the Augusta submarine base last night, 2 Wellingtons attacked Naples, and 3 Blenheims Apollonia.

Libya and Western Desert. 15 Wellingtons bombed Derna last night. During this morning 12 Marylands in 2 waves of 6 aircraft at 1 - hour interval bombed M.T. workshops at Derna.

Suez Canal Area. Slight damage was caused to the quayside installations at Port Tewfik by bombing last night

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

In reply to the Admiralty request made a month ago that U.S. merchantmen should make reports of raiders, the Navy Department considers it inexpedient to instruct them to do so, but firmly believes that a U.S. master expecting to be attacked would voluntarily broadcast information.

Australia.

At 0130Z today a suspicious ship of about 8,000 to 9,000 tons was sighted approximately 15 miles east of Norfolk Island heading south.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Hudson attacked a U-boat in approx. 46° 35' N., 2° 38' W., at 0745 today achieving complete surprise and dropping a bomb which exploded 10 ft. before the conning tower, after which the stem of the U-boat rose out of the water at an angle of 45° and disappeared, bubbles and oil came up for some time.

British S.S. NOTTINGHAM bound independently from Glasgow for New York, reported at 2042 G.M.T. that she had been torpedoed in 53° 24' N., 31° 51' W.

/BENNEKOM.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign. - Contd.

BENNEKOM sunk (O.S.10)

FREESIA, at Ponta Delgada, reports that the ship of O.S.10 sunk on 31/10 was the Dutch BENNEKOM. LULWORTH attacked one U-boat on that date with 27 depth charges and considers it may have been sunk. GORLESTON also probably sank a U-boat in 48.45 N., 25.00 W.,at 1851Z/1.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Proposed attack on French Fishing Craft.

H.Q.C.C.'s A.P./267 of 4/11. As French fishing craft have been allowed to fish unmolested during the past summer, I consider that a suitable warning should be given before commencing the attack.
As soon as the warning has been sufficiently promulgated it is proposed that the attack should be carried out by any surface craft that can be spared and by any S/Ms. in the area in addition to aircraft to ensure that the threat is made effective in keeping fishing craft clear of the area. (C. in C. Plymouth 1234/7).

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanskie.

S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1455/31/10 and 1645/2. Request you will investigate forthwith the possibility of the Russians providing the necessary tanker supply to Iokanskie if it is decided to use this anchorage for refuelling P.Q. convoy escorts. (A.C.N.S. H. 1834A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Movements.

RENONCULE. ROSELYS.

Your 1848A/6. Is anything known of whereabouts of RENONCULE and ROSELYS. (C. in C. W.A. 1016A/7 to N.O.I.C. Iceland).
Your 1016A/7. ROSELYN sailed as in my 0001N/7 B.N. 465. RENONCULE sighted by aircraft in 59° 45' N. 28° 44' W. at 1250/6 patrolling in accordance with your 0049A/3. (A.C.I.C. 1105N/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

WOOLSTON.

Admiralty's 1753A/6. Request you will sail WOOLSTON to join Rosyth Command not later than 15/11. (C. in C. W.A. 1021A/7 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

MALCOLM.

Admiralty's 1605A/24/10. Intend to sail MALCOLM on 10th for Cardiff to refit. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1231A/7).

/RODNEY.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

RODNEY. RODNEY is to be refuelled and sailed with utmost despatch.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1319A/7.)
Your 1319A/7. Can an E.T.A. be given.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1545A/7 to Admty.)
Your 1545A/7. E.T.A. daylight 8th.
(D.O.D. H., 2241A/7 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

TRIDENT. SEAWOLF. K.21. Following received from TRIDENT. Begins. All torpedoes expended. In order to avoid crossing SEAWOLF am returning along latitude 72° to 30° 40' E. Thence for R/V R one at 1601C/8th by route TK. S.O.A. 8½ knots. T.O.O. 0934C/7. Ends. Admiralty pass to SEAWOLF.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1503C/7.)
TRIDENT 0934C/7.
K.21 sailed Polyarno 1500C/7 routed as follows to Zone 2A.
2. TRIDENT is to proceed by 072° N. to 33° 30' E. thence 130° to 071° 37' N. 035° E. and through 69° 50' N. 35° E. to R/V 69° 34' N. 34° 10' E. at 1000C/9.
3. SEAWOLF is to proceed through following positions to R/V in 69° 34' N. 034° 24' E. at 1000C/10.
4. T.B.R. arranged accordingly.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1731C/7.)

P.38. My 1151A/5 para. one. For 1800A/7th read 2000A/7th.
(Capt. S.3., 1528A/7.)
P.38 and LA CAPRICIEUSE sailed in accordance with S.3's 1151A/5.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2102/7.)

1st and 6th M/S.Flotillas. Request (a) I may be informed of general intended movements of ships of 1st M/S. Flot. and 6th M/S. Flot. at present in home waters. Subject to (a), propose to sail GOSSAMER and HUSSAR for U.K. with Q.P.3 and LEDA and SEAGULL with Q.P.4.
Your 1245C/1st this was done by all ships before leaving U.K. but has negligible effect in severe ice. Removal weed trap strainer assists.
(S.O. 1st M/S. F., 2135C/7 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

"Stumor". My 1241/6. "Stumor" postponed a further 24 hours.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1129A/7.)

Interception of Heavy Unit. On completion of exercise today proceed to patrol Denmark Strait North of minefield in vicinity of ice limit. Object to intercept and shadow enemy surface vessel breaking out into Atlantic.
(ii) If dispositions in my 1221N/5 are ordered proceed to join me passing North of 067° N. and West of 027° W.
(C. in C. H.F., 1251Z/7 to BERWICK.)
Weather has greatly reduced efficieny of air R/C. Other intelligence entirely lacking.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2341A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

British Air Activity.

Patrol. "Bert" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0546/7.)
"Stab" in operation. "Stand" is being flown at six hour intervals weather permitting.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1041/7.)
"Sentry" one, two, and three are required by 1600 today and should thereafter be maintained.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1200A/7.)
P.R.U. of Haugesund, Oslo, and Kristiansand now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1331/7.)
My 1331/7. Aircraft returned owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1529/7.)
"Sentry" two withdrawn at 1935 today on account of icing.
Anticipated that "Sentry" one and three will have to be withdrawn at midnight 7th/8th.
R/C of Norwegian coasts have been and are being maintained, but weather conditions are unfavourable.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2242A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Bombing operations. On 6/11 there were no operations. On Night 6/7 seven A/C attacked the Docks at Havre, and one A/C each attacked Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg Docks.
(H.Q.B.C., 1315/7.)

/321 Squadron.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

821 Squadron. Your 1225A/5. 821 Squadron is to cease operating on 9/11. Personnel are to report to F.O.I.C. Greenock p.m./11th. (D.N.A.D., 1835A/7 to R.A.N.A.S.) Admiralty's 1835/7. 821 Squadron is to fly to Arbroath a.m./9th. (Hatston, 2309/7.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Unknown Ship. Rec. at 0755/7 G.M.T. De unknown station. Automatic A.A.A.A. Signal heard at 0755 G.M.T. strength 2 bearing from Port Patrick Radio 140° apprx (Port Patrick 0855/7.) GNF states that the bearing of automatic A A A A at 0755 G.M.T. is 308° from North Foreland radio. (Port Patrick, 0909/7.)

Yarmouth bombed. Gt. Yarmouth attacked by single enemy aircraft 2030/6. 4 bombs fell in marshes vicinity of town. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0931A/7.)

STELLA PEGASI, PRESTON NORTHEND attacked. STELLA PEGASI and PRESTON NORTHEND were attacked by one Heinkel III in Skopen Fiord at 0915 today. All bombs missed. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1121A/7.)

EMPIRE BUNTING (Convoy F.N. 45.) Following received 1123 G.M.T. from Cullercoats DE EMPIRE BUNTING begins A A A A attacked. Positions unknown at present. Please take bearing. Ends. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1232/7.)

Off Waterford on 30/10. Irish Govt. Fishing Patrol Vessel attacked. British Coaster and FRANK attacked. Information received that 2 enemy aircraft attacked British Coaster, name unknown, owner believed Kelly of Belfast, near Coninbeg light vessel at 1945/30/10. Aircraft were driven off and then attacked Eire Government fishing patrol vessel which returned fire and brought one aircraft down. Lifeboat from Kilmore called out and searched for survivors without result. Publication in Southern Irish papers suppressed. Grade A/2. Belgian trawler FRANK, H.32 also reports encounter with 3 enemy aircraft same vicinity 1845/30. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1507A/7.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Convoy. Enemy aircraft bombing 56° 54' N. 1° 58' W. (ALBURY, 1905/7.)

Mining.

4th M.S. Flotilla.

Comply with C. in C. H.F. 1107Z/6. (A.C.O.S., 0107A/7 and 0227A/7 to M.S.4.)
Your 1107Z/6th. Can estimate of period during which sweeping must be suspended be given so that I may organize boiler cleaning of ships in my flotilla. (S.O. 4th M/S. F., 1030A/7 to C. in C. H.F.)
S.O. 4th M/S. Flotilla's 1030A/7th. No estimate can be given until situation clears. Propose 4 ships should remain in Faroes in case I have to pass through mine barrier, and remainder should boiler clean at Scapa or Aberdeen. (C. in C. H.F., 1556/7 to A.C.O.S.)
On suspending operation in accordance with C. in C. H.F.'s 1107Z/6 total area so far cleared is 062° 22' N.(15") 006° 55'42" W., 062° 19'24" N. 007° 03'30" W., 062° 22'00" N. 007° 07'40" W., 062° 25'30" N. 007° 00'10" W. Severe gales have prevented all sweeping during last 48 hours and tides only allowed 3 hours sweeping on all available days after recommencement of operation. One mine detonated in FITZROY's kite while getting it in, but no damage sustained by ship or personnel although explosion was only 10 yards from stern. (S.O. 4th M/S. F., 1805A/7.)

Bristol Channel.

Owing to weather being unsuitable for mine-sweeping, all Bristol Channel Ports are closed until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0143A/7.)
Cardiff, Penarth, Barry, Swansea, and Port Talbot are open forthwith. All other Bristol Channel ports open from 1100. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 0923A/7.)
Exploded red mine 1402/7 in 010° 1.8 miles from Watchet Pier Light. (Capt. M/S. Bristol Channel, 1729A/7.)

/S.N. 83B.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

S.N. 83B. C. in C. H.F. 1201/6. R/V 0900/9 in 270° Mygganaes Light 4 miles. Squadron will approach R/V through position 060° 27' N. 007° W. and 061° 56' N. 007° 33' W. course and speed onward from R/V 320°, 14 knots.
(R.A.M., 0931/7.)

PORT QUEBEC. Tobermory and Londonderry Minefields. F.O.I.C. Southampton's 1756/24/10 and my 1636/5. Intend to sail PORT QUEBEC escorted by NEWARK and CHARLESTON at 1130/11 to lay Tobermory Field and thence to Loch Indail, Islay, for the night.
2. Ships will leave Loch Indail at 0800/12 and after laying Londonderry Field will pass Rathlin West Light at 1030, routed as follows.
3. E.T.A. Needles 0800/14.
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange fighter protection in Irish Sea and fighter escort in Channel during daylight hours.
(R.A.M., 0946/7.)

N.P.7. Intend to carry out operation N.P.7 tonight or as soon as weather permits.
(V.A. Dover, 1052A/7.)

RUBIS, RORQUAL. Your 1657A/6 and 1659A/6. Concur.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1138A/7 to F.O.S.)

Hartlepool. Middlesbrough. Owing to suspected minelaying ports of Hartlepool and Middlesbrough are closed. All ships affected.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 2253/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Off Lister. Merchant Ship of about 3000-tons was sighted by A/C in position 058° N. 006° 38' E., course 300°, speed 8 knots at 1240A/7.
(F.O.S., 1416A/7 to P.35.)

Navigational.

62 A Buoy. Light extinguished.
(VIVIEN, 2000A/7 and 2005A/7.)

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Steaming Performance. The maintenance of escort forces as reflected in steaming performance of ships attached Londonderry reflects credit on all concerned. (C. in C. W.A., 1143A/7.)

U.S. Warships Identification Marks. 1. All U.S. Warships in Atlantic Fleet including submarines employ following deck marks as identification signals to aircraft. Details. (D.S.D., 1903A/7.)

Casualties and Defects.

GALLANT FOX. My 1728A/6. GALLANT FOX steering gear repaired and rejoining. In view of repeated breakdowns intend GALLANT FOX (is to ?) proceed to Oban for investigation. Tug standing by. (S.O. E.G.8., 0628A/7.) Arrived FRISKY with S.S. GALLANT FOX. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 2359A/7.)

COMMODORE. My 0939/6. COMMODORE is delayed with engine trouble at Yarmouth. (F.O.I.C. Southampton, 1500/7.)

EAGLE. A.M. 1217/29/10. Date of completion postponed to 30/12. (D.O.D. F., 1703A/7.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Pilots for P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. Your 1814C/4. Please gratefully accept kind offer of C. in C. Northern Fleet and embark first pilot in Q.P.3. (A.C.N.S. T., 0005A/7 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) C. in C. Northern Fleet is supplying 3 pilots to embark in Commodores' ships of Q.P. and P.Q. convoys, remaining on board throughout voyage. First pilot embarks in Q.P.3. S.B.N.O. North Russia has been informed. (D.T.D., 2155A/7.)

A.12. In order to guarantee that A.12 is ready to sail from Clyde by 12/11, propose that she definitely leaves Glasgow on p.m. tide 11/11. If necessary embarkation could be completed at tail of bank. War Office agree. (D. of S.T., 0312A/7.)

/D.S. 16.....

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

D.S. 16.
S.D. 16.

LANCASTER and CASTLETON detailed for D.S.16. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to issue necessary orders to CASTLETON who shall return to port ZA on completion of duty with S.D.16.
(R.A.M., 0959A/7.)

STEWARD.
SAPPER.
W.P.M.63.

Ships for STEWARD 8/11 are to be sailed independently to Swansea Bay and as a group therefrom at 0930/8. W.P.B.63 (SAPPER) will leave Barry Roads 1000/8, Swansea Bay 1200/8, R/V with W.P.M.63, 1715/8. Normal working is to be resumed at Swansea and Port Talbot.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1026A/7.)

P.Q.2.
Q.P.3.

P.Q.2 at Archangel will be discharged by 8/11 and loaded ready to sail as Q.P.3 by 14/11.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1252A/7.)

O.N.34.

1. VOLUNTEER, CALDWELL are to sail from Londonderry at economical speed to overtake convoy at daylight/10 in about 18° W.
2. SHERBROOK, CHICOUTINI are to sail from Greenock to fuel at Londonderry and overtake convoy at daylight/11.
(C. in C. W.A., 1559/7.)

Escorts of Homing Convoys.

Procedure to ensure meeting of Homing Convoys by Trawler Escorts from Liverpool and Oban. Details.
(C. in C. W.A., 1831A/7.) See Lion Copy.

DOUGLAS.
H.X.157.

Not met. LEAMINGTON, SKATE, AMAZON, GEORGETOWN, ANEMONE, ABELIA in company. Position 060° 03' N. 024° 38' W.
(DOUGLAS, 1600Z/7.)

D.S.16.

S.S. BANFORA (13 kn.) and S.S. LEINSTER will form Convoy D.S.16 leaving Clyde p.m./12th.
(D.O.D. H., 1841A/7.)

P.Q.3.
P.Q.4.

A.M. 1008A/6. In consequence of the delay to P.Q.3 it has been decided that P.Q.3 and P.Q.4 should be combined.
2. Ships for P.Q.4 now in O.N.(S).33 are expected to arrive Hvalfjord on 11/11.
(A.C.N.S. T., 2018A/7.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

COMMANDANT DUBOC. — Is returning Gibraltar owing to engine defects. (F.O.C.N.A. 0015A/7 to Escort S.L. 91 G., LEITH)

CLYDE. JONQUIL. COREOPSIS. DINGLEDALE. — My 1658/6 (N.T.in W.D.) Departure CLYDE, JONQUIL, COREOPSIS escorting R.F.A. DINGLEDALE. CLYDE keeping normal watch on area broadcast shift to read G.A., (S.Ps carried). (F.O.C.N.A. 0040A/7 to Admty.)

French Shipping. — Passings 6/11 Westward PLAY ON, KEROMAN, CAPITAINE ARMAND all full. (V.A.C.N.A. 0911A/7 to Admty. for M.E.W.)

S.L.91 G. AZALEA. — My 1204A/6. AZALEA is to remain with convoy until further orders. (F.O.C.N.A. 1030A/7 to AZALEA.) My 1030A/7. Leave convoy S.L.91 so as to arrive Ponta Delgada at (?1200)A/12 to (?complete with) fuel. Further orders will be (?signalled). (F.O.C.N.A. 1828A/7 to AZALEA.)

Boundary. — A.L.M. 014142/41 dated 3/11. Amend longitude given in para 6 (iii) of enclosure to read 06° W. (Hd. of M. 1407A/7 to A.I.G.21, F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force H., F.O.S.)

French Shipping. — Gibraltar 1655 Armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE, S.S. ROUBAISIEN, full, CAP BLANC, full, with deck cargo, trawler MEN GWEN, Eastbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 1813A/7 to Admty.,C. in C. Med.)

DUNCAN. — Intend sailing DUNCAN for Chatham via Plymouth at 0800A/8 routed (?through) (c) 043° 00' N. 016° 00' W. (d) 45.00 16.00 (e) 49.30 11.00 (f) 180° Bishop Rock and thence as directed by C. in C. Plymouth. S. of A. 15 knots. (ii) E.T.A. at position (f) is 0800A/12.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1818A/7 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

MIRROR. — Your 1242/27/10. What is intended sailing date for MIRROR? Small alterations to her programme are under discussion with Cable and Wireless. (D.S.D. 1927A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ZULU. — E.T.A. 0400/8. GURKHA, ISAAC SWEERS and ATHENE in company. (ZULU, 1936A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/O.G. 76 .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

O.G.76. ARGUS. DINGLEDALE.	202 Squadron. 1 Catalina Escort O.G.76 noon to dusk, area covered 16.00 W. to 14.00 W. 1 Catalina Escort ARGUS from N.W. 1300 to dusk, area covered 09.20 W. to 06.00 W. 1 Catalina Escort Tanker DINGLEDALE to S.E. dawn to dusk, area 06.40 W. to 08.50 W. (200 Group, 1945/7.)

South Atlantic.

DORSETSHIRE CANTON.	DORSETSHIRE return to Freetown forthwith. CANTON continue to act in accordance with my 1845/6. (C. in C. S.A., 0029N/7 to DORSETSHIRE, CANTON.) In view of B.A.D. Washington's 2039R/6 act on my 1703N/5. Report fuel remaining. (C. in C. S.A., 0957N/7 to CANTON.)
CARNARVON CASTLE.	C. in C. S.A. 1713/6 (i) practice programme is deferred. (ii) Proceed Capetown to fuel and report E.T.A. (iii) C. in C. S.A. 1943/30/10 has been passed to you. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0503Z/7 to CARNARVON CASTLE)
CLYDEBANK.	Overdue shipping my 0925/4, CLYDEBANK arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0945B/7 to Admty. etc.)
Coal Shortage, St. Vincent C.V.	Coal situation serious. Coal Companies present stock 250 tons sufficient only to supply water ferry, domestic purposes, etc. Government may consider it necessary to requisition present Admiralty reserve of 1240 tons. (Consul, St. Vincent, C.V., 1130/7 to Admty.)

/ODENWALD ...

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ODENWALD (intercepted by Task Group S.6., 6/11)

At 0900Z/6 a message from Norddeich to an unknown unit ordered the ship to be scuttled before the enemy came on board. If this was addressed to ODENWALD request information on what frequency ODENWALD's signal which gave rise to it was sent as it was not intercepted by any South Atlantic station.
(C. in C. S.A., 1259N/7 to Admty.) Reply: 1525/8.

SHAHRISTAN. Survivors.

Your 1616A/6/11. There is no other ship in S.L.92 with necessary accommodation, but anticipate accommodation will be available in S.L.93 with necessary speed.
(C. in C. S.A. 1307N/7 to Admty.)

Task Force 3.

Situation report at 1200 G.M.T./7.
(a) Group 3.6, OMAHA, SOMERS, JOUETT, 02° S. 30° W. to Recife.
(b) Group 3.7, MEMPHIS, DAVIS, 01° N. 37° W. to Trinidad.
(c) Group 3.8, CINCINNATI, 05° N. 50° W. to Recife. JOUETT joins CINCINNATI at Recife for patrol duties.
(D.O.D. (F) 1321A/7 to C. in C. S.A., etc.)
See also America and West Indies, 2045/7.

Force F. disbanded.

Ships addressed no longer form Force F.
(C. in C. S.A. 1524N/7 to DEVONSHIRE, CARNARVON CASTLE, COLOMBO, CARTHAGE.)

ALCANTARA. CARNARVON CASTLE.

N.O.i/c Simonstown's 0730B/6 not to Admiralty. Following stores for ALCANTARA are in BIRMINGHAM. Anticipated no opportunity forwarding to U.S.A. until return Oiler ARNDALE to Trinidad in about 3 months. Suggest ALCANTARA should proceed U.S. via S.A.D. area where stores could be transferred to her. Otherwise it appears necessary duplicates should be sent from U.K. Most desirable CARNARVON CASTLE should carry out full practice programme before rejoining S.A.D.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1542Z/7 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown, C. in C. S.A.)

BEVER, BOKSBURG, fuelling.

Your 1650B/5, permission granted.
(N.A. Lisbon 1546/7 to Capt. i/c Simonstown.)

/Minesweepers ...

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Minesweepers. No arrival signals for following ships have been received. Request information :- BALTA left Freetown 15/9, HOXA left Lagos 10/10, ROMEO left Lagos 18/10, FIRMAMENT (late KOS 9) left Lagos 10/10.
(D.M.S. 1547A/7 to C. in C. S.A.) Reply: 2208/8. My 2359B/3/6 para. 4 (b). Request information when 93rd M/S Group will sail for Mediterranean.
(D.M.S. 1550A/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation "Bellringer". (1) All ships of Vichy convoy have now arrived in port as follows: East London: BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE, COMPEIGNE. Port Elizabeth: CAP PADARAN, CAP TOURANE. Force F. is cancelled and ships have disposed as follows: DEVONSHIRE, COLOMBO and CARTHAGE to Durban. CARNARVON CASTLE to Capetown to fuel and to depart a.m./9 for Escort Duties.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1557B/7 to Admty. etc.)

W.S.12 X. Admty. 1912/3. As convoy W.S.12 X. will probably sail from Capetown without calling Durban request I may be informed if East Indies (?will) provide escort from Cape onwards. In this case escort may be able to provide Liaison Officer asked for by B.A.D. Washington 1733/10/10 para. (iii) C, and convoy Conference at Capetown can be attended by all Officers concerned.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1600Z/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

PRINCE BAUDOUIN. My 1307/2. Hoped PRINCE BAUDOUIN will be ready to leave Capetown p.m./16/11.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1603B/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

St.Helena, Ascension, shipping. Intend following policy for ships taking supplies to St. Helena and Ascension.
(1) Ships of not less than 11 knots to be employed if possible.
(2) Duration of visit not to exceed 8 hours, ships to arrive about 0809 and leave 2 hours before sunset.
(3) Ships to zig-zag and not to use wireless within 200 miles of either island.
(C. in C. S.A. 1831N/7 to Admty.)

/M.L.Cs .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - contd.

M.L.Cs. My 2132A/27/9 and your 1158N/24. Regretted that 2 M.L.Cs cannot be retained at Freetown for use of S.S.T.O. These valuable craft together with their crews are required for operational duties elsewhere. Request therefore you will arrange for their shipment to Gibraltar in accordance with my 2132A/27/9. 2. Provision of alternative craft is under investigation, and in the meantime you are authorised to make limited use of 2 M.L.Cs from Force 'Q' so long as they are at Freetown.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1842A/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

Independent Routes. Routeing of homeward bound Independent ships between Capetown and Freetown appears to be restricted to an unnecessarily narrow lane particularly between Capetown and Latitude 20° S. Request you will employ wider dispersal.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2021A/7 to N.C.S.O. Capetown.)

Mediterranean.

Turkish Vessel sunk. The Ajence Anatolie has announced the sinking of a Turkish motor vessel, the KAYNAKDERE, of 143 tons, in Turkish territorial waters in the Black Sea between Midia and Igneada by a submarine the nationality of which is not mentioned. (Istanbul 7/11, to The Times, 8/11)

SUTLEJ JUMNA. Is there any objection to employing SUTLEJ and JUMNA in Mediterranean intermittently? Their presence in Red Sea during no moon periods is not necessary and they would be a valuable addition to Mediterranean Escort Forces at these times. (C. in C. Med., 1115B/7 to Admty.)

/Norwegian ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Norwegian Sweepers. Understood Norwegian POL and GLOBE groups of Whalers now fitting L.L. and S.A. in India are modern 14 knot ships. It is not known whether these ships are likely to come to Mediterranean, but in any case it is strongly urged that such fast seaworthy vessels are wasted if only fitted as sweepers and should be fitted A/S as well if possible. Corvettes prove very satisfactory in dual role.
(C. in C. Med., 1117B/7 to Admty.)

UPHOLDER URGE PORPOISE. UPHOLDER and URGE leave 035° 51' 015° 15' on course 60° at 2200B on 8/11 and 9/11 respectively. PORPOISE due Grand Harbour 0730B/9 by S.E. Channel. P.31 due Marsamxett (Marsamuscetts) 0730B/9 from 036° 00' 014° 53'.
(Capt. S. 10 1121B/7 to P.31, PORPOISE.)

Suez Raid. Night 6/7. 2 enemy aircraft came in over the Delta west of the canal and entered the Gulf of Suez apparently in search of shipping. 1 stick of bombs dropped on Suez on their return by the same route caused slight damage, 1 person missing 6 injured. Fighter up at Port Said and Suez, no interceptions.

Benghazi bombed. Night 5/6. 22 Wellingtons attacked stores dumps at Benghazi and petrol depot on Juliana Mole. Large petrol fire started at Mole, other results unobserved. 1 Wellington bombed Martuba landing ground causing a number of white explosions.
Day 6/11. Marylands attacked stores dumps near Benghazi.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1156/7.)

"Landmark". Propose "Landmark" shall consist of BRECONSHIRE, SYDNEY STAR, AJAX, CLAN FERGUSON, Oiler PLUMLEAF.
(V.A. Malta, 1245A/7 to C. in C. Med.)
Approved. (C. in C. Med. 1105B/9.)

Enemy Convoy. 2 Merchant Ships and 1 Destroyer sighted in 038° 39' N. 019° 12' E. course 165° at 1030/7.
(Capt. S. 10, 1259B/7 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

/Suez Raid ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Suez Raid. Ref. C.A.F.O.587. (a) Night 6-7/11 calm clear. (b) 2 enemy aircraft 0100 to 0445, one of which attacked at high level Port Tewfik. No flares (c) H.E. (d) 5 bombs (e) slight civilian damage to quayside installation, Army casualties one killed 2 wounded, Naval damage and casualties nil (f) 9 fighters patrolling area, no interceptions (g) balloons up. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1309B/7 to Admty. etc.).

REGENT TRUANT. REGENT leaves harbour 1630B/7 and carries out diving for trimming in Alexandria submarine exercise sanctuary within following limits. Destroyers and Trawlers are hunting U-Boat sighted in 031° 30' 029° 15'. They have been warned of your arrival. Exercise sanctuary available for you to dive a.m./8 before entering harbour. Do not overtake mine-sweepers met in searched channel. You should not pass shoulder buoy before 1000B/8. (Capt. S.1. 1501B/7 to TRUANT.)

Warships for Turkey. From Adm. Kelly. In absence of Marshal, sick, I handed to Asim Gunduz Aide Memoire accepting verbal proposal of Turkish Govt. concerning delivery of ships in accordance with Admty. 2319A/3. He was delighted and at once read paper to M. of F.A. and M. of Defence. Turks will take immediate steps to approach Council of State to have original contract altered, to permit of delivery in two series, half now, and half after a delay of one year, on account of difficulties of construction in England in War Time, and of assembling necessary crews for voyage. Alteration in contract will be announced in the meantime and taking over of ships by Turkish crews already available will be carried out with ceremony. British crews can return by ship or rail.
(N.A. Angora, 1608B/7 to Admty.)

PROTEUS. Amend limit (?of) area A. (?as follows) East of (?Cape Matapan) and West of 025° 40' between 036° 20' and 038° 30'. PROTEUS will be required to remain on patrol until p.m./11 when she will be recalled to (?arrive) Alexandria a.m./15.
(Capt. S.1, 1615B/7 to PROTEUS.)

/TORCELLO ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

TORCELLO (sunk 6/11)	N.S.O.(I) Istanbul's 1559B/6. Information confirmed by Turkish General Staff. (N.A. Angora 1629B/7 to S.O.I. Med.)
Malta Raid.	Night 6/7. 4 Bombers approached, 1 crossed coast, bombs in sea and Grand Harbour. No damage or casualties. A.A. fired and damaged enemy bomber. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1711/7.)
Augusta, Naples, Tripoli bombed.	Night 6/7 Nov. 5 F.A.A. Aircraft attacked submarine Base Augusta. Hits target buildings east of target and wharf fire visible 10 - 15 miles. Bad weather curtailed nuisance raids; Tripoli and Naples. 2 Wellingtons attacked Naples. Hits area Central Railway, Cesario Console Mole, fire North Airframe Works, Capo Di Chino Aerodrome machine gunned. 1 Wellington attacked Tripoli. Bombs from 300 feet burst Petrolibia Depot Area.
Schooners bombed.	Special Blenheim search 7/11 sighted 0702 hours 55° Melita 47 miles 2 Schooners 800 tons. 4 250 lbs G.P. bombs dropped, near miss schooner. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1713/7.)
ELISABETH HENDRIK FISSER. (German)	Sailed tonight 7th. (Valencia 1945/7 to D. of S.T.)
Warships Building for Turkey.	Following for Adm. Kelly:- N.A. Ankara's 1720B/3 and A.T. 2319A/3. We are anxious to commence conversion work on Monday 10/11 on destroyers we will be retaining. Can you now state when decision on this offer is likely to be received? (Hd. of M. Approved by V.C.N.S. 2002A/7 to N.A. Ankara.)

/Enemy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Shipping.

(a) At 1515B, 2 M/Vs 3 to 5000 tons and one destroyer P.C. and S. 038° 40' N. 019° 13' E. 160° 3 knots. (b) At 1602B, 3 M/Vs 5000 tons each and one escort ship P.C. and S. 038° 57' N. 017° 14' E. 000° 4 knots. (c) At 1648B, one M/V 4000 tons P.C. and S. 036° 00' N. 017° 25' E. 165° 10 knots. 2. (a) Above attacked by Blenheims today near misses claimed. Being attacked by Wellingtons tonight and Blenheims tomorrow. (c) Swordfish attacking tonight. (V.A. Malta, 2005B/7 to C. in C. Med.)
At 1602B/7 3 medium M/Vs 1 escort vessel, 038° 57' N. 017° 14' E., course north, speed 4 knots. (Capt. S. 10, 2015B/7 to P.31.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Red Sea Area.

My 1314/21/10 para. 4. (1) The area recently transferred to Mediterranean Station will also form part of the Mediterranean Intelligence Organization. A.S.O.(I) is remaining at Aden and an additional S.O.(I) has been appointed to Suez to be known as S.O.(I) Red Sea.
(ii) The area to east of 045° 05' E., which had been in Aden sub centre area will now be incorporated in area controlled by S.O.(I) Kilindini.
(iii) E.I. War Memorandum 201 will be amended accordingly. (C. in C. E.I., 0600Z/7).

REPULSE, REVENGE.

Please pass following to S.O. Force G in accordance with Admty 1554/27/10 para.(b) (begins) Admty 1948/6.
(1) It is my present intention to have REPULSE at Trincomalee currently with your visit on 1/12. She is at present on E. African Coast and should be available to leave Mombasa 16/11.
(2) REVENGE is working on E. African Coast in accordance with Admiralty instructions. She is due to reach Aden with W.S.12 on 19/11 and would normally return to Mombasa unless you propose other employment. (Ends)
(C. in C. E.I., 0752Z/7 1320Z/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

BENALDER, STREEFKERK.

Have you any news of BENALDER due Port Okha 29/10 from Aden and Dutch STREEFKERK due Bombay 30/10 from Durban?.
(D.T.D., 1907A/7 to S.O.(I) Colombo).

China.

RAMB II (Italian).

My 0302Z/3. RAMB II has returned Kobe.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0221Z/7 to Admty etc).

/AQUITANIA....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

AQUITANIA, QUEEN MARY. Your 0321/5. AQUITANIA has been ordered to leave Colombo for Singapore as soon as ready so that she should arrive shortly. QUEEN MARY will not arrive Singapore until about 5/12.
2. A.C.N.B. should advise R.A. Malaya of date when AQUITANIA should arrive in Australasia for U.S.14 so that overhaul in Singapore can be completed accordingly.
(D.S.T., 0311A/7 to R.A. Malaya).

W.S.11 X. Convoy W.S.11 X ORION, NIEUW ZEELAND, JOHANN DE WITT, LARGS BAY, RANGITIKI, GLAUCUS arrived Singapore 6/11. (R.A. Malaya, 0710Z/7 to D. of S.T.) W.D. Note - D.S. 794 and D.O.R. mentioned 7 ships in this convoy, not 6 as in above list.

Suspicious Ship 6/11. Cavite reports U.S.A. Ship sighted vessel acting suspiciously in 3° S., 177° E., at 1900Z/6. Further details have been requested. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0817Z/7 to Admty).

DIOMED. Have you any news of DIOMED due Singapore 2/11 from Bombay?
(D.T.D., 1906A/7 to S.O.(I) Singapore).
Reply 05032/8.

Ammunition. Following scale of reserves of ammunition for the Eastern Fleet is approved. (D.G.D., 1926A/7 to S.O. Force G) See Lion Copy.

Louis Dreyfus ships. My 1631/6. Following received from B.A.D. Washington (begins).
1. Confirmed FRANCOIS L.D. sailed Saigon ostensibly for Kobe. It is reported, ungraded, that she took Cape Horn route and was met by French Cruiser off Ascension.
2. L.D. Ships are now believed unable to bunker at Manila.
3. Report from Casablanca, dated 5/11 states that CHARLES L.D. is expected Casablanca 1st to 5th/12 carrying 6,000 to 7,000 tons rubber, and has been told to follow same route as FRANCOIS L.D.(ends).
Comment. CHARLES L.D. is in British hands and information presumably refers to PIERRE L.D. It is not considered PIERRE L.D. could arrive Casablanca before middle of January by Cape Horn route. There are six ships of this line. Following is their position as far as is known:
(i) CHARLES L.D. and JEAN L.D. in British hands.
(ii) LEOPOLD L.D. now at Casablanca normally used in New York/Casablanca route.
(iii)PIERRE L.D. Arrived Saigon 2/11. (iv)

/FRANCOIS L.D...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. - Contd.

Louis Dreyfus Ships. - Contd.

(iv) FRANCOIS L.D. Arrived Casablanca 20/10.
(v) LOUIS L.D., renamed FOMALHAUT, proceeding in convoy to Madagascar, having left Dakar 26/10.
(D.N.I., 2243A/7 to C. in C. China, etc).

America & West Indies.

ODENWALD (intercepted 6/11).

Your 2039R/6. CIRCASSIA now at Trinidad is available to proceed to take over escort of ODENWALD if desired by Opnav.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 10120/7 to B.A.D.)
Your 10120/7th. Navy Dept. does not immediately desire to take advantage of this offer but would appreciate it if CIRCASSIA could be kept available until a further decision is made.
(B.A.D., 1615R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
For 1st S.L. Ref. capture of ODENWALD by Task Force 3 Navy Dept. sent for N.A. on receipt of an Admiralty congratulatory message and informed him that Col. Knox stressed greatest importance of incident to be kept secret as it was not a defensive measure. I understand that U.S. attitude to this matter and disposal of ship is now under consideration.
(B.A.D. 1233R/7 to Admty).
For 1st S.L. My 1233/7. Navy Dept. now ask that all British Naval authorities concerned may be warned to keep incident secret.
(B.A.D. 1801R/7 to Admty).

DIOMEDE.

Your 15520/17/9 and my 1017/13/10 (N.T. in W.D.) Intend patrolling until a.m./21 then proceeding -DIOMEDE to Talara and Oiler ORANGELEAF to Port Payta for fresh provisions arriving 24/11 and sailing for patrol 25/11. (DIOMEDE, 1101R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/LIVERPOOL.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

LIVERPOOL. LIVERPOOL reports she was unable to complete degaussing and deperming tests at San Francisco and proposes carrying them out at Bermuda where I understand there are no facilities. Consider ship should be depermed and degaussed before reaching U.K. This could be carried out at Norfolk Virginia. Will you instruct ship as considered desirable and repeat to me? (B.A.R.M., 1158R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.) B.A.R.M. Washington 1158/R/7. LIVERPOOL is to proceed from Colon to Norfolk Virginia, route via Windward Passage, for deperming and degaussing range, before proceeding to Bermuda. LIVERPOOL report E.T.A. at position 2½ miles North of Cape Henry to B.A.R.M. Washington, and signal revised programme as soon as practicable. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1652Q/7 to LIVERPOOL).

CATHAY. Your 1232A/30. Request permission to transfer two-pounder guns and mountings from CATHAY to QUEEN OF BERMUDA. (B.A.R.M., 1204R/7 to Admty).

Vichy Intelligence. Dakar 5/11 A.1. French Cruiser PRIMAUGUET arrived 3/11 for dry docking and PORTHOS cleared for Conakry. Casablanca 6/11 A.1. Danish HEBE II under British registry is at Port Lyautey and has 31 men on board from Greek POLEMIS and ELISE. French Admiralty has (?is) reported to have seized POLEMIS and ELISE. (B.A.D., 1323R/7, to S.O.(I) Freetown).

Convoy Escort fuel. Will escorts for T.C.15 W.S.12, and C.T.5 require fuel or any services at Halifax? E.T.A. C.T.5 Halifax afternoon 8/11. (Opnav, 1451Z/7 to Com Task 4 etc).

French Shipping. Algiers 4/11. A.1. Arrivals 28th Oct. SIDI AISSA from Marseilles 30th Oct. SAINTE DENISE from Marseilles 30th Oct. O.L.M.12 (OLM 12) from Caronte 1st Nov. ARTESIEN from Marseilles 2nd Nov. SAINT ALAIN unknown. Departures 30th Oct. BRETOIS for Casablanca 30th Oct. CAP FIGALO for Port Endres 30th Oct. DUNKERQUE for Marseilles 31st Oct. SIDI AISSA for Marseilles. (B.A.D., 1511R/7 to Admty).

O.N.34 Your dispatches 1222Z/7 and 1347Z/7 (N.T. In W.D.) concur proposed route O.N.34. (Opnav, 1604Z/7 to Admty).

/DESPATCH....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

DESPATCH. Bermuda departure DESPATCH in accordance with my 1232Q/5. E.T.A.Trinidad 0800Q/11. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1613Q/7 to Admty).

P.511 P.551. B.A.D. Washington's 1935P/5. Concur. (F.O.S., 1629A/7 to Admty). Your 1935/5 Approved. (D.O.D. (H) 1933A/7 to B.A.D.)

N.Z. Ships. Ref. Admty 2059A/7/10 and 2020A/23. Request you instruct New Zealand ships that on arrival at Newfoundland or Bermuda they should despatch to B.A.D. a statement of fuel and naval stores required from U.S. Early intimation is necessary to enable arrangements to be made with U.S. authorities. (B.A.D., 1659R/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

SEA OTTER trials. Your 1338/6 addressed B.A.D. Progress of trials with SEA OTTER I and II. (N.A. Washington, 1705/7 to Admty).

"R" Reports from U.S. M/Vs. Your 0640A/7/10. Navy Department considers it is inexpedient to instruct U.S. merchantmen to report as suggested for following reasons:
(ii) Use of radio particularly if disclosing a raider's position would subject the merchant ship to jeopardy by immediate destruction in accordance with German policy.
(iii) Navy Department firmly believe that a master of a U.S. merchantman meeting an axis warship and expecting to be attacked or sunk would, if evasive tactics were considered useless, broadcast complete information probably in P/L on 500 kc/s without having been given specific instructions.
(B.A.D. 1705R/7 to Admty).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA. It is proposed to sail QUEEN OF BERMUDA to Bermuda on completion of refit to pick up aircraft. Request confirmation. (B.A.R.M., 1736R/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/ILLUSTRIOUS...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.- Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE. B.A.D. Washington's 2101R/27/10. On completion B.A.R.M. is requested to sail ILLUSTRIOUS to Jamaica to embark all 12 T.S.R. aircraft and 20 Mark XII 18" torpedoes transferring 6 T.S.R. aircraft and 10 torpedoes to FORMIDABLE on return to Norfolk. 2. Approved for ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE to carry out 7-day work up at Norfolk.
3. B.A.R.M. is requested to report date on which ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE should be ready to sail in company for U.K.
4. Ships to be manned in accordance with A.M. 2217A/3/10.
5. Intended that on arrival in U.K. both ships shall circumstances permitting, give 14 days leave to those ratings who remained in the ship during refit and thereafter recommission.
6. A.M.'s 0032A/4/10 and 2319A/22/10 refer. (A.C.N.S. (F), O.D. 1292/41, 1802A/7 to B.A.D. B.A.R.M., etc) See also 1912/8 for amendment of para 1.

GUDMUNDRA (Swedish). Rescue Tug PRUDENT sailed at 1400Z/7 to assist S.S. GUDMUNDRA aground St. Pierre Island. (C.C.N.F., 1853Z/7 to Admty).

AGIOI VICTORES(?) grounded, sunk. Following received for Lemos Pateras, Biliter St. London (begins) 1800/3 having foggy weather lost touch convoy 10 P.M. run aground Double Island. Steamer refloated remained afloat till 0800/5 then sunk. Impossible proceed her own power, engine room filled water. Assistance called immediately not arrived. All crew saved, instruct. George Pateras. (ends). (N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F., 1855Z/7 to Admty). W.D. Note- Only ship L. L.P. owns is AGIOI VICTORES, but she arr. Rio 28/10.

ROBIN GRAY. Your 1225B/6 ROBIN GRAY arrived Rio de Janeiro 25/10. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2034Z/7 to S.O.(I) Capetown).

/Task.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Task Groups, ODENWALD.

Your 1321/07 to C. in C. S.A. etc.
(a) Group 3.6 OMAHA, SOMERS, escorting ODENWALD to Trinidad 0800Z/07 position 01.20 N., 29.35 W. course 264° speed about 9, proceeding via point at Equator in 43.00 W.
(b) Group 3.7, MEMPHIS, DAVIS, 2000Z/05 lat. 01. 15 N., long 28.55 W., course 275° speed 13, for Trinidad. (c) Group 3.8 Correct as given.
(Opnav, 2045Z/7 to Admty).

C.T.5.

Will arrive Halifax forenoon 8/11. Escorts propose fuel base sail.
(Opnav, 2356Z/7 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, etc).

Australia.

Suspicious Ship.

Ship about 8,000 to 9,000 tons approx. 15 miles east Norfolk Island at 0130Z/7 heading south, (description) Visibility poor, difficult to establish accurate data.
(Adminstrator Norfolk Island, 0300Z/7 to Admty).

A.M.C's.

Your 0149Z/6. Confirmed.
2. Ammunition and ordnance requirements for MONTCLARE will be arranged.
(D.O.D. (F), 1602A/7 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

EMPIRE GEMSBUCK. (torpedoed 3/11.)

Master EMPIRE GEMSBUCK ex S.C.52 reported ship torpedoed in dense fog in 52.13 N. 53.25 W. Forepart of ship cargo T.N.T. blew up, after part was not observed to sink but probably did. Master remained on board two hours while crew were taken off but C.Bs. were left in Chart Room (list).
(N.C.S.O. St. John's, N.F., 1413Z/7 to Admty.)

EVEROJA (torpedoed 3/11.)

British EVEROJA ex Latvian torpedoed 90 miles from Straits of Belle Isle, sunk. Master rescued all C.Bs. and handed them to me.
(N.C.S.O. St. John's, N.F., 1531Z/7.)

NOTTINGHAM.

Intercepted from Cape Race at 2042 G.M.T., NOTTINGHAM, 53° 24' N. 31° 51' W. torpedoed.
(Halifax N.S., T.H.I. 1717/7 to Admty.)
NOTTINGHAM, 8532 tons, independent from Glasgow for New York with general cargo and Government stores. (D.S. 795, 8/11.)
Following intercepted at 2043 G.C.T. NOTTINGHAM 053° 24' N. 031° 51' W. torpedoed.
(U.S. C.N.O., 2240/7 to Admty., C. in C. A.F. etc.)

O.S.10
BENNEKOM
(sunk 31/10)

My 2130Z/31. Dutch BENNEKOM was sunk. 25 survivors including Captain in CULVER, 22 in LULWORTH. C.B's. were destroyed. One or two submarines attacked, no moon. LULWORTH attacked one submarine dropping 27 charges. There are indications that submarine may have been sunk. GORLESTON joined company 1000Z/31 and STANLEY at 1830Z/1. GORLESTON probably sank one U-Boat in position 048° 45' N. 025° 00' W. at 1851Z/18 (? 1851Z/1 intended). FREESIA and VERBENA parted from convoy p.m./4/11 to fuel but were weather-bound off Ponta Delgada.
FREESIA and VERBENA sail Ponta Delgada to rejoin convoy a.m./8.
(FREESIA, 1849Z/7 to C. in C. W.A., Admty., etc.)
BENNEKOM, 5998 tons, Dutch, under British charter, from Liverpool to Table Bay with Government stores and general cargo.
(D.S., 796, 9/11.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated dispositions of U-Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1400A/7, 1401A/7.)

1942
G.M.T.

Ref. Admty. Message A.F.
53° 24' N. 31° 51' W. at 1942 G.M.T./7.
(D.D.I.C. 2245Z/7 to G.B.M.S. Area 1.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.

Have attacked enemy S/M with bombs estimated hits one. My position 46.35 N., 2.38 W. course 120° height 6,000 feet, am returning to base, E.T.A. 1030.
(A/C "A", 0900/7 to 19 Group)
Details of attack. (Hudson A/233, 1310/7 to 19 Group.) See Lion Copy.

By LULWORTH
By GORLESTON.

On 31/10. At 1851Z/18 (? 1851Z/1).
See FREESIA, 1849Z/7, in Ships Attacked.

By VETERAN, LEAMINGTON.

T.L. consider that your attacks on 11/9/1941, probably achieved the destruction of a German U-Boat. Congratulations.
(1st S.L., 1826A/7 to VETERAN, LEAMINGTON.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Dispositions to intercept enemy units.

RODNEY left Loch Ewe with 3 destroyers at 1611A today, to cover the Iceland - Faeroes passage from first light 10/11.
Air patrols north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and East of Iceland were not flown, but R/C of the Norwegian Coast was maintained today.

At 1115A the Admiralty gave orders that Convoy P.Q.5 was to be sailed.

British Air Operations.

19 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Ostend last night and 18 (including 3 Manchesters) Boulogne.

Enemy Air Operations.

Faeroes.

A low level attack by a Junkers 88 on the Norwegian whaler HORTEN (Faeroes Local Defence Force) at Thorshavn caused 2 casualties and the ship is temporarily out of action. Shipping in Klaksvig Harbour was also bombed at 1210 today and one fishing vessel was damaged and beached.

Tyne.

Convoy F.S.42 was attacked about 1804 off Coquet Island and S.S. CHLORIS was slightly damaged but proceeded with the convoy. About 1950 S.S. GASLIGHT was damaged off Sunderland whilst waiting to join up with a southbound convoy.

Trawler CRADDOCK was reported bombed and sunk at 1830 today off St. Abbs.

/Humber ...

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations - contd.

Humber. S.S. BRABO in F.N.46 was slightly damaged by air attack at 1805 today, 2 miles south of 62 D Buoy (off Scarborough) and proceeded to Immingham.

Norwegian S.S. VICTO in the same convoy was sunk at 2330 near 18 B. buoy.

Cromer. Convoy F.S.41 was bombed off Cromer at 1815, but no damage has been reported.

Dover. Dover was attacked between 1755 and 1805 today and again at 2310. Superficial damage was caused to Abbotscliffe R.N. W/T Station.

Western Approaches. Auxiliary aircraft carrier AUDACITY escorting O.G.76 reports that one of her Martlets was shot down by F.W.200 in 41° 27' N. 15° 18' W. Two F.W. 200 were shot down in (?41°) 4' N. 14° 30' W. and (?41°) 18' N. 14° 18' W. respectively, and one escaped undamaged owing to poor visibility.

Mining.

S.N.83 B. S.N.7 C. R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS with PORT QUEBEC and 4 destroyers left Port Z.A. at 0810 today to lay mines N.W. of the Faeroe Islands. KENYA, BEDOUIN and INTREPID are to provide cover whilst R.A.(M) is north of 62° N.

6 aircraft laid mines last night in Oslo harbour and one at the mouth of Skudesnes Fiord.

Thames Estuary. Harwich armed trawler sunk 42 floating mines in the vicinity of Q.Z.S. 306 between 5/11 and 6/11, most of them British. Vessels of Yarmouth Sub-Command have sunk 51. WINDSOR sank 8 mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 287 on 5/11.

/Enemy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - contd.

Enemy aircraft last night laid mines off the Tees and Tyne and between Spurn Head and Yarmouth.

Hartlepool and Middlesbrough were opened at 1510 today.

North Atlantic.

Fuel shortage. Portuguese Admiralty state that the stock of good quality fuel oil in Ponta Delgada is now down to 700 tons.

Operation "Pantaloon". ARGUS, ATHENE and 5 destroyers arrived at Gibraltar from U.K. at 0600 today, one of the destroyers, LAFOREY, will join Force H.

South Atlantic.

French Reaction to "Bellringer". The U.S. Consul at Dakar reports to his Government "informal intimations" from French authorities at Dakar that as 5 merchant ships with cloth and rice for Dakar and French North Africa were intercepted, French warships may have to be dispatched from Dakar to intercept British ships for U.K. from Freetown. As a precaution, DUNEDIN and DORSETSHIRE are to cover S.L.92 and subsequently O.S.10.

O.S. Convoys. Starting with O.S.12, a Vice Commodore will be appointed to each O.S. convoy so that it can be split into a slow and a fast portion, as was suggested by C. in C. S.A. on 5/11.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S/M Operations. Capt. S. 10 reports that THRASHER destroyed an 800 tons schooner bound N.E. from Benghazi on 28/10, apparently laden with petrol. The torpedo missed, but ship was abandoned and sunk by gunfire.

U-boat sunk. UPHOLDER sank a southbound U-boat about 0400/8 in 36° 19' N. 16° 22' E.

Search for Enemy Convoy. A convoy of 6 M/Vs and 4 destroyers were reported by aircraft in 37.54 N., 16.58 E. at 1400B/8 steering 90° at 11 knots.
Force K. left Malta at 1730B at 28 knots to endeavour to intercept.

Air attack on Brindisi. 21 Wellingtons last night attacked Brindisi dropping 4½ tons of I.Bs and 28½ tons of H.E. (including 3 x 4000 lbs and 7 x 1000 lbs.) Subsequent photographs showed hits on the Torpedo Boat Base, Cant airframe factory, railway station and barracks.

Air attacks on shipping. 2 destroyers and 2 M/Vs were attacked by aircraft at 1010Z-2 in 35.20 N., 19.45 E. One merchant ship was abandoned.

Blenheims today attacked a convoy of 2 (2000 and 3000 ton) merchant vessels and one destroyer which was sighted yesterday at 1515B in 38° 40'N. 19° 13' E. steering 160° at 3 knots and attacked by Blenheims. After a second attack at 1400 today the smaller ship was seen low in the water in 35° 7' N. 19° 45' E. having been hit in the first attack. The larger ship was also left on fire.

Libya and Western Desert. 26 Wellingtons took off to attack Benghazi last night but owing to very bad weather 18 were recalled. One 4000 lb bomb was dropped on Bardia. Two Fortresses attacked Benghazi and Sollum this morning.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

25% of the M.N.B.D.O. personnel at Addu Atoll are reported to be on the sick list: C. in C. E.I. intends to send hospital ship VITA as soon as possible and he proposes, if delay to the base can be accepted, to sail CLAN FORBES to Colombo after landing guns and stores at Diego Garcia and to give 14 days leave to M.N.B.D.O. at Colombo.

America and West Indies.

ODENWALD. The U.S. Naval authorities have asked that the interception of the German supply ship ODENWALD by a U.S. Task Force on 6/11 may be kept secret. It is considered that the ship and her U.S. escort can make Trinidad without further assistance.

Belle Isle Straits. Ottawa estimates that Belle Isle Straits will begin to close to shipping on 28/11, but on average weather over the past year it is considered that safety from ice is assured up to 10/12.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

DEMIRHISAR.
SULTANHISAR. A.M.1752/6. DEMIRHISAR will be manned from Portsmouth. SULTANHISAR with a Devonport crew to be withdrawn from MISTRAL on reduction and adjusted by depot. Navigating crews are to be full E.R. and half upper-deck complement and available to commission ships by 21/11 approximately or as required by F.O.I.C. It is intended to fill the available accommodation in these ships with suitable ratings awaiting passage. (D.P.S. 1156A/8 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

CUMBERLAND. Report if you consider CUMBERLAND is fit for R/C duties. (C. in C. H.F. 1512/8 to V.A.2.) Your 1512/8. Yes. R.D.F. and A/C as yet untrained. (V.A.2. 1835A/8.)

ENGADINE. ENGADINE is due to complete as an aircraft transport on the Clyde about 17/11 ex trials. 2. It is intended that ENGADINE should be employed in the same way as ATHENE. A.M. 1713/22/9 refers. 4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for the working up of ENGADINE on the Clyde and to report when she will be ready for service. (A.C.N.S. H. 1646A/8.)

EMPIRE ORIOLE,
PEREGRINE,
PINTAIL. Are these ships to wear the white ensign. They arrived wearing the red ensign. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1839/8.)

LA MOQUEUSE. Request your opinion as to the suitability and seaworthiness of LA MOQUEUSE if required to proceed to St. Johns Newfoundland during winter months. She would be required to act as escort to an O.N. Convoy. (D.O.D. H. 1845A/8 to C. in C. W.A.)

French Fishing Craft. H.Q.C.C. 1755/4 and C. in C. Plymouth 1234/7. This is under consideration in the Admiralty. Request no action be taken against fishing vessels for the present. (V.C.N.S. 1916A/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Admiral Isakov. My 1144D/27. Admiral Isakov is now in charge here. He was C.N.S. until June 24 and since then has been with the Baltic Fleet.
(Ad. Miles, 1153D/8.)

Iokanskie. Your 1834C/7. C. in C. Northern Fleet states no tanker available for ships at Iokanskie. Only suitable tanker with stowage 1200 tons is required for duties in Kola Inlet.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1740C/8.)

Movements.

RODNEY. Arrival RODNEY with IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE and ONSLOW. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 0815A/8.)

WRESTLER. C. in C. W.A. 1915A/6. Onward route as follows. 2. Speed is to be adjusted so as to pass the Needles at 0800.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1024/8 to WRESTLER.)

DUNCAN. F.O.C.N.A's 1818A/7. Onward route 180° Lizard 5, thence by Q.Z.S.278 to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1028/8 to DUNCAN.)

BOADICEA. Intend to sail BOADICEA to Greenock. Expected time of departure Needles 1800/8. Route.
E.T.A. Greenock 0900/10.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1057A/8.)

RAMILLIES. RAMILLIES 1556A/30 and A.M. 2300A/2.
On completion of her refit C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail ship for Scapa to work up under C. in C. H.F. who is requested to sail her for the Clyde to arrive 29/11.
2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to provide necessary escorts.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1643A/8.)

RESOLUTION. On completion RESOLUTION will proceed to Scapa to work up.
2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to report when ship will be ready to sail.
(Controller 1645A/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Enemy Heavy Unit. (RODNEY).

My 1203Z/6, para.2. Proceed from Loch Ewe to pass through approx. position 060° N. 022° W. at first light 10th.
(C. in C. H.F.1005Z/8 to RODNEY.)
Intend to sail at 1600, speed of advance 16 knots commencing patrol as in C. in C. H.F. 1203Z/6 first light tenth.
(RODNEY 1155A/8.)
Departure RODNEY with ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE and ANTELOPE in company.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1611A/8.)

BRADFORD to search for A/C survivors.

Search in 041° 50' N. 014° 58' W. for Pilot of Martlet and in 041° 14' N. 014° 30' W. for survivors of Focke Wulfe and rejoin by dark.
My P.C.S. at noon 041° 30', 015° 34', 136°, 6.
(AUDACITY 1225Z/8 to BRADFORD.)

Patrols.

2 Chasseurs patrolling Q.Z.S.271 returning to St. Helens at dawn.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1503A/8.)
Patrol tonight. (1) 2 M.G.Bs. Q.E. (3).
(2) 3 M.Ls Q.E.4 A. Rest shift to Q.E.5 at 0100/9. (C. in C. Nore 1537A/8.)
For night of 8th/9th. Two trawlers on O.D.1 and two on O.D.5. Two M/Ls on O.D.6 and 7 combined. Two M/Ls leave Dover 2300 returning at about 0600/9 route each way via No.1 buoy.
(V.A. Dover 1714A/8.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing restrictions.

My 1201/3rd. Cancel all bombing restrictions requested in para. three of my 1050/30.
(A.C.O.S. 1000A/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols.

Cancel A.M.1200A/7. "Sentry" one, two and three will not be required until further orders.
2. R/C of Norwegian coast should be maintained.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1116A/8 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)
P.R.U. of Haugesund, Oslo, Kristiansand South in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1129/8.)

Protection for RODNEY.

Request A/S Air protection may be arranged from first light tomorrow in accordance with RODNEY's 1155/8.
(D.C. 1348A/8 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1348A/8. Regret no long range aircraft are available.
(C. in C. W.A. 1855A/8 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

ALBURY. (4th M/S Flotilla) damaged.

ALBURY attacked by Heinkel 111 at 1842/7 in 056° 53' N. 001° 58' W. A/C dropped 4 bombs 30 yards astern. Slight damage to machinery, no damage to hull. Probable time required to make good defects 36 hours.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1010/8.)

Dover bombed on 7/11.

Enemy A/C dropped about 8 H.E. and some incendiary bombs between 2255 and 2301 yesterday. 3 fell in Grand Shaft Barracks and remainder in the town. No fatal casualties reported but some civilians injured. Considerable damage to house property. No Naval casualties or damage.
(V.A. Dover 1152A/8.)

Attack on 30/10 off Waterford.

Report graded A.2 begins. Repeats F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1507A/7. Can you confirm please.
(D.N.I. 1355A/8 to N.A. Dublin.)

Faroes attacked. HORTEN (Norwegian Naval Whaler) damaged. One Fishing Smack damaged.

One Junkers 88 carried out low level bombing and machine gun attack H.N.M.S. HORTEN anchored off Thorshavn at 1155 today. Bombs missed but one rating killed, one injured by machine gun fire. Ship temporarily out of action. Shipping in Klaksvig Harbour and approaches bombed at 1210. One Faeroese Smack damaged and beached. No casualties or other damage.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1515A/8.)

Convoy F.S.42

Enemy aircraft bombing "Breast" in 55° 26' N. 1° 24' W. (VERDUN 1804/8.)

Convoy.

Enemy aircraft bombing "Attempt" in 53° 58' N. 0° 7' E. (WOLSEY 1809/8.)
Enemy aircraft bombing my position 54° 23' N. (?longitude) (WOLSEY 2343/8.)

Convoy F.S.41.

Help convoy "Attack" position 52° 40' N. 0° 40' E. course 150°, speed 7 knots.
(SCORPION 1815/8) (VERSATILE 1816/8)

GASLIGHT. (British, 1696 Tons) damaged.

Received 1950 G.M.T. from GASLIGHT near S.one buoy. Bombed, engines disabled, making water, require tugs immediately. Ends.
(Cullercoats W/T 2050/8.)

BRABO. (Belgian, 3658 Tons) damaged.

Departure at 2110 tug IRISHMAN to assist S.S. BRABO.
(F.O. Humber 2330A/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.83 B.

Sailed R.A.(M) in MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN and MONTROSE. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0810/8.)
Seidisfjord. KENYA, BEDOUIN, INTREPID sailed 1300Z to R/V with R.A.M. (C.S.10 1305Z/8.)

Thames Estuary.

One S.A. mine detonated at 3347/7. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1103/8.)

Bristol Channel.

All Bristol Channel ports will be open from today from 1000 until 2300.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1112A/8.)

Hartlepool Middlesbrough.

My 2253/7. Ports of Hartlepool and Middlesbrough now open. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1510/8.)

East Coast Floating Mines.

My 1632A/3. Harwich Armed Trawlers sank 42 Floating Mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 306 in period 3rd to 5th November inclusive.
The majority of these were identified as British Marks XIV and with a few exceptions the mines looked old. Three exploded whilst being fired at. Vessels of Yarmouth Sub-Command have sunk 51 floating mines. Humber have reported separately (Humber No.06714 to D.T.M.) WINDSOR reported sinking 8 mines in vicinity of Q.Z.S. 287 on 3/11. Probably other Convoy escorts have sunk mines, of which reports have not yet been received. Rendered safe on coast during week-ending 2/11, 12 Mk.14, 1 Mk.16, 1 Mk.17, 1 Mk.19, 9 conical floats. A much larger number have been rendered safe on coast during present week.
(C. in C. Nore 1752A/8, 1845A/10.)

Enemy Intelligence.

DAGMAR CLAUSEN damaged.
PETER Sunk.
2 Patrol Vessels Sunk.

Mining results Denmark.
(1) Danish DAGMAR CLAUSEN mines 7/10 in Nyborg Fjord. Vessel brought into port.
(2) German motor barge PETER mined and sunk south south east of Omo 29/10.
(3) Two German patrol vessels stranded at Halsbarre 29/10. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1252/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Derelict. (1) Derelict with mast and derrick six feet above water reported in 54° 57' N. 5° 30' W. at 1315A/8. Being broadcast for 48 hours. (Hydrographer 1915A/8.)

Elbow Buoy. Reported one mile South of charted position. Request Q.Z.H. message. (C. in C. Nore 2253A/8.)

East Dudgeon Buoy. Light reported extinguished. (Hydrographer 2255A/8.)

Casualties and Defects.

ANGLE. Unidentified boiler trouble. Speed 5 knots uncertain. Position 060° 44' 019° 20' unreliable. Making for position (J) in hope of increasing speed and joining convoy. (ANGLE 1120Z/8.)

HARTLAND. My 1218A. HARTLAND delayed by grounding. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1452A/8.)

AQUAMARINE. Has sustained damage due to dropping depth charges on suspected submarine contact. Ship requires docking. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1519/8.)

EDOUARD VAN VLAANDEREN. Admiralty's 1636A/5. As no salvage attempt made by firm mentioned in my 1831/10 September authority given to Ragnar Olafsson of (?Akureyr) to carry out immediate operations. Work commenced 5/11. Apparatus recently arrived from abroad being used. (A.C.I.C. 1729N/8 to Adty.)

MONARDA. (LL.Drifter) Cdre. Sheerness reports MONARDA beached and filled in approx. position 182° Outer Bar Buoy 1.5 miles. Damage as far as known is only to stem, slightly damaged on leaving Queenborough and appears to have opened up while steaming. Salvage considered possible next convenient tide. (C. in C. Nore 1844A/8)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

C.T.6. — My 0722/1. Sailing date and embarkation of C.T.6. Ships delayed by a further two days. (D. of S.T. 0606A/8.)

DOUGLAS. H.X.157. — P.C.S. 60° 14' N. 21° 51' W. 90°,6. (DOUGLAS 0800Z/8.) Admiralty's 0800A/8. Anticipate meeting H.X.157 by 1400Z/8. DOUGLAS and SKATE will then have to proceed to Iceland for fuel. My 1600Z/7 add ANEMONE. My P.C.S. are 060° 02' N. 020° 40' W., 270°, 12 knots. (DOUGLAS 1130Z/8.)

P.Q.3. P.Q.4. — Cancel A.M.2018A/7. In view of: (a) Admiralty 0815A/8. (b) Urgency of getting convoys through to Russia. (c) No indication of TIRPITZ's movements. Convoy P.Q.3 should be sailed now and arrangements made to sail P.Q.4 as soon after its arrival in Iceland (C) as possible. (A.C.N.S. H. 1115A/8.)

O.S.11. — Sailed IBIS, ENCHANTRESS, ABERDEEN, CLARE, STORK, WALNEY for O.S.11. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1218/8.)

C.E.56. — Convoy C.E.56 completed passage without incident. (C. in C. Nore 1541A/8.)

W.S.14. — RAMILLIES will be required to sail with W.S.14 about 1/12. (A.C.N.S. H. 1643A/8.)

S.C.50. — Met as arranged. Two ships straggled on 21/10 one of which KING MALCOLM not yet reported, other ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1724A/8.)

O.S. Convoys. — Vice-Commodore to be detailed so that convoys can be split. (D.T.D. 2207A/8 to C. in C. S.A.) See South Atlantic.

O.S.11. — Request you will investigate why five ships failed to sail with O.S.11. (C. in C. W.A. 2241A/8.)

ST. ZENO, (?VIZALMA) and convoy returning to Reykjavik owing to heavy gale. (A.C.I.C. 2331/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ARGUS, ATHENE, destroyers.	Arrival ARGUS, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, GURKHA, ZULU, ATHENE, ISAAC SWEERS. (F.O.C.N.A., 0602A/8 to Admty etc).
WRESTLER.	Left Ponta Delgada 0900Z/8. E.T.A. Plymouth 0700Z/12. (WRESTLER, 0916/8, to F.O.C.N.A.)
Ponta Delgada Fuel.	Portuguese Admiralty states stock of good quality fuel oil in Ponta Delgada now down to 700 tons. (N.A. Lisbon, 1118/8 to Admty).
O.G.76	Departure WISHART, VIDETTE as additional escort to O.G.76. (F.O.C.N.A., 1132A/8 to Admty etc).
MIRROR.	Your 1927A/7. Date cannot yet be given as no escort is at present available. (F.O.C.N.A., 1746A/8 to Admty).
French Shipping.	Gibraltar 0915/8 French survey ship ESTAFETTE, FORMICNY French westbound, 1715/8 French Destroyer SIMOUN, OREGON and CALEDONIAN both French eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1949A/8 to Admty etc).
Enemy M/V.	List B.B. number 2 left Barcelona 1800/8th for Genoa. (F.O.C.N.A., 2136A/8 to OLYMPUS).

South Atlantic.

CARNARVON CASTLE, DERWENTDALE.	CARNARVON CASTLE arrived Capetown A.M./8 and will now sail P.M./10 to R/V with DERWENTDALE in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1713/6. My 1557/7 para. 2 refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0948Z/8 to Admty etc).

/Operation.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Operation "Bellringer".	Their Lordships congratulate you and all who took part in "Bellringer" on successful conclusion of this operation and they desire that you will convey to Union Authorities their appreciation of the valuable co-operation of the Seaward Defence Force and the South African Air Force. (1st S.L., 1029A/8 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
ALCANTARA.	Sail ALCANTARA on completion of docking to join S.A.D. temporarily as required by R.A.S.A.D. (C. in C. S.A., 1033N/8 to N.O.I.C Simonstown).
Task Force 3.	A.T. 1321A/7. Situation Report 1200 G.M.T./7. Amend Paras. (a) and (b) to read:- (a) Group 3.6. OMAHA, SOMERS escorting German ODENWALD to Trinidad, estimated position 01° 15' N., 30° 15' W., course 264° 9 knots passing through position Equator, 43° W. (b) Group 3.7 MEMPHIS, DAVIS estimated position 02° 05' N., 37° 30' W., course 275° 13 knots, for Trinidad. (D.O.D. (F) 1107A/8 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. A.W.I. etc).
Navigation Lights.	Ref. CAMSI 463. Consider Navigation lights should not be burned in areas six A, six B and nine North of 35° S., between Longitude 20 East and 50 West. If you concur request you will initiate necessary action. (C. in C. S.A., 1115N/8 to Admty).
Force G.	Your 0947/6. Arrangements have been made for up to 258 tons diesel fuel being available for destroyers at Walvis Bay. C. in C. S.A. pass to Force G. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1158B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)
ACADIA, DUNEDIN.	Intend to sail ACADIA 10/11 for Trinidad escorted by DUNEDIN as far as 026° W. route (a) 007° 00' N., 020° 00' W. (b) 007° 00' N., 026° 00' W. (c) 007° 00' N., 045° 00' W. thence to Trinidad. Your 1145R/4 (N.T. in W.R.) Understand Cmdr. Task Force 3 intended to provide onward escort from 026° W. (C. in C. S.A., 1207N/8 to B.A.D.)

/DEVONSHIRE....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

DEVONSHIRE. My 2337/1. Expect DEVONSHIRE will leave Capetown for Freetown on 11/11. You could therefore leave for Falkland Is. about 15th provided situation unchanged.
(C. in C. S.A., 1341N/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)

French Hint of Reprisals for "Bellringer". U.S. Consul, Dakar, has reported to U.S.A. as follows:- (begins) - "Informal intimations" from Admiralty Authorities Dakar that considering 5 French merchant ships were in convoy from Indo-China and Madagascar with cloth and rice for Dakar and French North Africa, French warships may have to be dispatched from Dakar to intercept British Ships making U.K. from Freetown. - (Ends).
(V.C.N.S., 1351A/8 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., F.O. Force H).

ODENWALD (intercepted 6/11). Your 11259N/7. ODENWALD's signal was not intercepted in United Kingdom.
(D.D.I.C., 1523A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

CALIFORNIA. A.M. 1232A/30/10. As CILICIA and CHESHIRE complete 19/11 and 30/11 respectively it is intended that CALIFORNIA on completion of refit in U.S.A. about 17/11 should give 14 days leave in U.K. to each watch before proceeding to South Atlantic station.
(A.C.N.S. (F),1914A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

BALTAVIA. Arrived 1800 G.M.T. and will go on floating dock first thing Monday, no labour being available before this. Full details of damage to starboard propeller shaft will be made as soon as possible after docking.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2025Z/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

O.S. Convoys, Vice-Commodores. Your 1755/5. Starting with O.S. 12 Vice-Commodore will be detailed so that convoy can be split into a slow and a fast portion and ships will be detailed for each portion before sailing. Commodore will be told your requirement. Other considerations must still govern the cruising order of the convoy.
(D.T.D., 2207A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Minesweepers. Admty 1547/7. HOXA ROMEO and KOS XI arrived Capetown 29/10. BALTA sailed from Capetown for Durban 3/11 (my 1623/7).
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2208/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

UPHOLDER. Well done, proceed on patrol (Capt. S.10, 0640B/8 to UPHOLDER).

Enemy Shipping. Wellington reports 3 ships at 0425B/8 040° 12' N., 017° 40' E., course Southerly. (V.A. Malta, 0824B/8 to C. in C. Med).

Turkish Caique sunk 5/11. Turkish Navy state Turkish Caique KAYMOTHDERE attacked 5th and sunk in Black Sea off Midye inside Turkish Territorial waters while on passage North by Russian submarine. (N.A. Angora, 0947B/8 to ? C. in C. Med). Comment by N.I.D. Caiques are believed to carry a considerable proportion of the Turkish-German trade. In broadcasts of 9/11 the Russians deny that this sinking was done by a Russian submarine.

Movements. Summary 221. (C. in C. Med., 1032B/8) See Lion Copy.

Italian Ships sunk ?TRUANT. Most reliable source reports 3 Italian ships in convoy attacked by S/M in Southern Adriatic recently. 2 sunk, one damaged and reached Brindisi. Cargo consisted of empty wooden barrels for shipment of olive oil from Turkey. Comment. Although no definite date was reported report considered reliable in view of cargo of damaged ship confirms expectations in local commerce circles. (N.A. Angora, 1120B/8 to S.O.(I) Med).
Comment by N.I.D. This presumably refers to the attack by TRUANT on 23/10 though TRUANT claims only to have sunk one ship and damaged an A.M.C. (Ref. C. in C. Mediterranean 2141/9).

ANTWERP. Your 2359N/6 Para. 2. Consider lifting of 4" mounting should be deferred until arrival in Mediterranean. These ships are urgently required. (C. in C. Med., 1134B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

/TORCELLO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TORCELLO (sunk 6/11)

N.A. Angora's 1629/7, sinking of TORCELLO confirmed from independent A sources; 17 miles off Bourgas, 3 of crew killed remainder landed. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1159B/8 to S.O.(I) Med).

Benghazi Derna Bombed.

My A.871, 6/11 para. 1. 3 Wellingtons returning Egypt from Malta night 5/6 dropped 10,500 lbs. bombs on Benghazi Harbour, direct hits on Juliana Mole and on searchlight.
Night 5/6. 6 Blenheims bombed dump at Derna.
Night 6/7. 20 Wellingtons despatched to attack M.T. and Workshops at Derna found 6/10 cloud at 3,000 feet over whole area, 12 aircraft dropped bombs through holes in clouds on M.T. and Workshops Derna Aerodrome. 3 Wellingtons dropped bombs on workshops and M.T. concentration West of Town - Remaining 5 aircraft unable to locate either objective dropped bombs on Derna Town.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1209/8).

Derna, Bardia bombed.

Day 7/11. During morning 12 Marylands in 2 waves of 6 Aircraft at 1 hour interval bombed M.T. Workshops at Derna from 18000 and 13000 ft.
Night 7/8. 26 Wellingtons 3 carrying 4,000 lbs. bombs took off to attack Benghazi, very bad weather encountered over Cyrenaica, 18 Wellingtons were recalled to Base, one 4,000 lb. bomb was dropped on Bardia.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1211/8 amended 0950/9)

Enemy Shipping.

Ref. SOKOL attack off Ischia. Is there anything to indicate whether shipping routes pass inside or outside Ponza?
(Capt. S.8., 1343A/8 to Capt. S.10)

R.D.F.

Your 1444/20/10. Desirability of fitting R.D.F. Type 281 to deal with this problem is fully realised. Type 281 gives far better results than Type 279 against low flying aircraft, and steps are being taken to effect replacements of the latter as ships and sets become available WARSPITE, ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE, DIDO and PHOEBE are being fitted.
(Capt. S.8., 1345A/8 to Capt. S.10)

/2....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

R.D.F. Contd. 2. Shortage of sets and personnel available to fit them preclude their being sent out to Mediterranean or to Durban for fitting there at present; hoped that situation will permit of their being despatched to arrive by the Spring of 1942. Replacing Type 279 by Type 281 necessitates ship being in Dockyard hands for about 3 weeks (A.C.N.S. (W) 1510A/8 to C. in C. Med).

Schooner sunk by THRASHER 28/10. C.A.F.O., 1278/41. On 28/10. 800 tons schooner N.E. bound from Benghazi, sunk by THRASHER. Conflagration indicated laden petrol. Torpedo missed, but ship abandoned and sunk by gunfire.
(Capt. S.10, 1542B/8 to Admty).

Enemy Units. 6 M/Vs 4 destroyers, P.C. and S. 037° 54' N., 016° 58' E., 090° 11 knots at 1400 B/8. (V.A. Malta, 1555B/8 to C. in C. Med).
Force K leaving harbour 1730B approx. course 064° 28 knots. (V.A. Malta, 1720B/8 to S/Ms on patrol).
Aircraft R/C 8/11, 4 destroyers, 6 Merchant ships 037° 55' 017° 00' 090° 11 knots, at 1350. Expected to turn South. Force K endeavouring to intercept. 2 Destroyers, 2 Merchant ships attacked by Aircraft at 1010 in 035° 20', 019° 45' one merchant ship abandoned. Time zone minus 2.
(Capt. S.10, 1849B/8, to UPHOLDER).

Air Operations Malta Raids. Night 7/8. 6 Bombers approached, 2 crossed coast. Bombs land sea. No damage.
Day 8/11 0736 hours 2 R/C aircraft crossed coast. A/A in action. 0955 hours, 4 Cant 1007 escorted 18 Macchi 202's crossed coast 22000 ft. Bombs land and sea. No damage 3 Macchis destroyed, 1 probable, 1 damaged, 1 fell on Island with dead pilot. 1 Hurricane lost pilot safe 1 pilot wounded.

Enemy Convoy Attacked. 7/11 Ionian sea R/C saw 1402 hours 3 M/Vs 5000 tons, 1 escort vessel, 090° Cape Rizzto 10 miles course north, 4 knots. 1315 hours sighted 2 M/Vs 2000 and 3000 tons 1 D/R 105° Cotrone 122 miles, course 160° 3 knots. 12 Blenheims out to attack, see my 1.225. 6 did not find owing thick cloud and error in reporting by sighting patrol. Remainder attacked 1326 hours 279° Ardiani Island 45 miles with 16 250 G.P. bombs from mast height. Very near misses by 2 Blenheims on large M/V, ship's machine gun silenced by Blenheim rear gunner, other results

/unobserved....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Convoy Attacked - Contd.

unobserved. Intense accurate A/A from D/R and M/Vs killed one rear gunner. All Blenheims returned. 0225/8/11 sighted by special Wellington 36° 41' N., 19° 49' E., course south, 8 knots. 0635 hours sighted by Kalmata Zante R/C 129° Spartivento 198 miles, course 160°, 10 knots. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1740/8).

Brindisi and other Raids.

Night 7-8/11, 4 aircraft attacked railways and factories in Sicily. At Ragusa a fire was started at a bitumen factory and a large explosion and fire at the railway station.
-At Olscari, what was believed to be a gunpowder factory was hit and much flying debris and an explosion were seen. A cork factory at Gela was also hit.
On the same night, 21 Wellingtons attacked Brindisi, where hits were made on marshalling yards, railway station, barracks, torpedo boat base and the Cant aircraft factory. 1 Wellington bombed the landing ground at Augusta, where a large fire was caused. (D.S., 797, 10/11 - no signal in W.D.)

R.M. Group A/A Units.

Admty 1938/2. Policy proposed by General Weston and approved by C. in C. M.E. and C. in C. Med., in June, 1941, confined R.M. Anti-Aircraft Units to the Nile Delta during the period of reorganisation required after Crete until 15/9/1941, when units would be at 14 days' notice for withdrawal if required for fleet purposes. (2) O.C. R.M. Group does fully appreciate that units form part of Middle East A/A defences under the control of C. in C. M.E. Force, but present situation in Middle East is such that no guns are available for M.N.B. A/A Units to M.N. (?man) Overt's 1131/29/10 requesting 32 guns was made in order to bring these units up to establishment with a view to being ready for fleet requirements and available to assist in A/A defence of the Delta. (C. in C. Med., 1810B/8 to Admty).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Convoy, UNIQUE. Southbound Convoy probably passes vicinity 032° 32', 019° 55' on S.S.E. course to enter Benghazi half hour before sunrise. Destroyers sweep area same night and intensive air patrol previous to daylight. Coastal traffic to N.E. by Schooners keep close inshore. (Capt. S.10, 1927B/8 to UNIQUE).

A/C attack on Convoy. WX 4201. 1232 8/11. My 1230/8/11 (N.T. in W.D.) Blenheim attack convoy 1015 (or 1815 corrupt) hours G.M.T., 1 M/V stationary, crew abandoning, other M/V on fire. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 2110/8 to Air Ministry).

Enemy M/Vs Candia. 3 Merchant ships reported in Candia Harbour P.M./7. (Capt. S.1., 2201B/8 to GLAUCOS).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Seychelles. Temporary Beacons as anchorage marks have been erected as follows.
(S.O.I.,Colombo, 0532Z/8 to Admty.)

C.M.18.X. CERES escorting C.M.18X, arrived Aden 0300Z/8.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 0800Z/8, D.O.R., 9/11.)

YARRA. aground 21/10. H.M.A.S. YARRA grounded at 0612Z/21/10 in 26° 11' 40" N., 50° 41' 40" E., near Bahrein. No damage except to Asdic gear, full report follows in due course.
(C. in C.E.I., 1004Z/8, to Admty.)

ATREUS minelaying. My 1246/29/10. ATREUS reports perturbations on M.6 mineloop amounting to 3 to 6 divisions on screen and when merlswell is heavy the light swings off board. If these perturbations do not settle down I intend ATREUS should relay loop and mines in position where there is less disturbance.
(C. in C.E.I., 1116Z/8, to Admty.)

Addu Atoll. I have today received report from S.N.O., and Defence Commander, Addu Atoll which gives me anxiety concerning health of M.N.B.D.O.personnel. Defence Commander states that troops are run down and their resistance to disease has been lowered. The chief complaint is form of fever which medical officers cannot recognize. Defence Commander recommended, and I support his recommendation, that troops should be sent to a rest camp before proceeding to Nancowry. If you can accept the delay I propose to amend programme in my 1050/4 as follows:
(a) CLAN FORBES to sail for Colombo after landing guns and stores at Diego Garcia (about 30/11.)
(b) M.N.B.D.O. be given 14 days leave at Colombo.
(c) CLAN FORBES to sail for Nancowry about 19/12.
(C. in C.E.I., 1202Z/8, to C. in C. China.)
My 1202/8. I have now been informed 25% of personnel at Addu Atoll are on sick list. I, therefore intend to send Hospital Ship VITA there as soon as possible. She should arrive 16/11.
(C. in C.E.I., 1250Z/8, to Admty.)

/A.M. 1504/24....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Addu Atoll. Contd.

A.M. 1504/24.
I have arranged with C. in C. China to retain BARMILL, TEAL, and JANADE WABLE at Addu Atoll. F.O.I.C. Simonstown informs me that they are due Capetown 10/11. They are therefore, unlikely to arrive Addu Atoll until late December. 2. Consequent delay must be accepted as I have no other Boom vessels suitable or available.
(C. in C.E.I., 1232Z/8, to Admty.)

RAHMANI.

Have you any news of RAHMANI due Bombay 31/10 from Aden?
(D.T.D. 1743A/8 to S.O.I., Colombo.)
Reply: 0326Z/10.

PRINCE OF WALES.

Please pass following addressed C. in C. East Indies from S.O. Force G., Your 0752Z/7.
If PRINCE OF WALES visits Ceylon would you recommend proceeding Colombo or Trincomalee?
(S.O. Force G., 1746Z/8, to Admty.)

China.

DIOMED.

Your 1906/7. DIOMED arrived Singapore 1/11, reported to Fairmiss in N.C.S.O. Singapore 0353/2.
(S.O.I., Singapore, 0503Z/8, to Admty.)

French Shipping.

7/11 arrival D'ARTAGNON, Departure 6/11, VILLE DE YERDWN, Haiphong, PIERRE L.D. Haiphong, GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER, Singapore.
(Saigon, 0648Z/8, to M. of W.T.)

French Shipping.

Your 1636/2. Departures Saigon 6/11, French ships VILLE DE VERDUN, 7/11 PIERRE L.D., both ostensibly for Haiphong. No escort reported. Embassy Z.M. informed.
(Capt. O.S., Singapore 1131Z/8, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PRINCESS MARGUERITE, PRINCESS KATHLEEN.

Your 1142A/23/9.
Esquimalt departures PRINCESS MARGUERITE and PRINCESS KATHLEEN in company due to arrive Honolulu 14/11, Suva 22/11, speed 15 knots. Alexandria C.C.O. pass to P.S.T.O. Egypt.
(C.O.P.C., 0159Z/8, to Admty.)

ODENWALD. (intercepted 6/11.)

U.S. Naval Authorities have asked that the interception of German supply ship ODENWALD by U.S. Task Force may be kept secret.
(1st. S.L. 0201A/8, to C. in C.H.F., C. in C.A.W.I., etc.)

Guatemala, signals by M/V's.

Following message received through G.P.O. from International Telegraph Office, Berne, is passed to you for information. (Begins.)
In territorial waters of Guatemala it is forbidden to foreign ships with the exception of warships to effect any radiotelegraphic or radiotelephonic communications whatever except the emission of signals aiding vessels in distress or when disembarkation of passengers baggage or cargo is difficult. (Ends.)
(Head of M. 1056A/8 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

AGAMEMNON CALIFORNIA.

When ready for sea AGAMEMNON should be sailed for Halifax. 2. Intended that AGAMEMNON and CALIFORNIA should be sailed in company from Halifax to Clyde. 3. N.S.H.Q., is requested to report the date on which they will be ready to sail.
(D.O.D.(H) 1117A/8, to B.A.R.M., N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

ALCANTARA.

My 1402R/25/10. ALCANTARA is allotted to Newport News Shipbuilding Co., Newport News.
(B.A.R.M. 1134R/8, to Admty., C. in C.S.A.)

RANPURA.

Is allotted to Bethlehem Steel Company, Baltimore.
(B.A.R.M. 1206R/8, to Admty.)

Belle Isle.

Can estimated date of closing of Belle Isle Straits to shipping be given?
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1231A/8, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
Your 1231A/8. Present estimated date closing Belle Isle Straits to shipping 28/11, but on average weather over past year it is considered sufficient safety from ice is assured up to 10/12.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1711Z/8, to Admty.)

/P.511.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.Contd.

P.511.
P.551. My 1905R/31, and my 1935/5 and Admiralty 1933A/7 and F.O.(S) 1311A/2. Request you will signal sailing instructions and route for P.511 and P.551 from New London, informing B.A.D. of route in order U.S. Authorities may be advised.
(B.A.D., 1237R/8, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

ODENWALD
Escort. My 1615R/7. Navy Department now consider ship and U.S. escort can make Trinidad without further assistance.
(B.A.D., 1343R/8, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

W.S.12X. W.S.12X report direct C. in C. Lant information Opnav and Com task group 14.4 at what time and date convoy will reach rendezvous (B).
(Opnav 1525Z/8, to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

ABBEYDALE. Cancel my 0942Q/2. Oiler ABBEYDALE will refit in U.S.A.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1542Q/8, to N.O.I.C's Trinidad, Bermuda.)

MERRIMACK. Have you any news of American MERRIMACK due Philadelphia 20/10 from Halifax?
(D.T.D. 1822A/8, to D.N.I., Ottawa.)

ILLUSTRIOUS
FORMIDABLE. A.M. 1802A/7, Para. 1. Cancel reference to embarkation of 20 torpedoes unless the 10 torpedoes sent from U. K. direct to each ship have not arrived.
(D.N.A.D. 1912A/8, to B.A.D., B.A.R.M. etc.)

CATHAY. Ref. your 1432/5 offer to fit CATHAY as trooper at Navy Yard, Brooklyn accepted with thanks, work to be carried out in accordance with Sea Transport Regulations. Removal and disposal of armament, equipment and stores items not required for new service to be arranged by Admiralty representatives concerned. Request details of party to be retained on board may be reported.
(Hd. of M. 1959A/8 to B.A.R.M.)

CIRCASSIA. Sail for Bermuda via Sombrero passage as convenient 9/11.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 2142Q/8 to CIRCASSIA.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

NOTTINGHAM. (torpedoed 7/11.)

Go to assistance of S.S.NOTTINGHAM torpedoed 053° 24' N., 031° 51' W., at 1942Z/7. (Com. Task Force 4, 0545/8, to A.M.C. AMHERST.) My 0545/8 addressed AMHERST. Use of AMHERST not mandated. Assignment any corvettes your unit satisfactory to Comdr. Task Force No.4. (Com. Task Force 4, 1045/8, to Com. Task Unit 4.1.13.)

FLYNDERBORG GRETAVALE. (torpedoed 2/11.)

Master of British ex-Danish FLYNDERBORG ex S.C.52 reports torpedoed about 250 miles N.E., Belle Isle at 2358/2/11. 3 men killed in Engine room, remaining 21 survivors brought to St. Johns Newfoundland by WINDFLOWER. C. Bs., thrown in weighted bag by Master himself in deep water. British GRETAVALE, Ex S.C.52, ship ahead of FLYNDERBORG, torpedoed same position a few minutes earlier and sank immediately. C. Bs., may be assumed to have gone down with ship. 5 survivors only picked up by WINDFLOWER's boats.
(N.C.S.O., St. John's N.F., 1526Z/8, to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

1000 G.M.T.

Track of a submarine sighted 1000 G.M.T. 053° 13' North.
(ALACRITY, 1101/8, to Whitehall W/T.)
Note. No longitude given.

1212A.

Enemy aircraft shadowing a convoy at 1212A/8, probably S.L.91 or possibly O.G.76. May draw on U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1303A/8, to Escorts of S.L.91, O.G.76.)

Caribbean.

R.N.O. St. Lucia reports (a) U.S. Army plane ordered patrol radius 100 miles St. Lucia accounts for report of submarine in Caribbean Sea. (b) U.S. Navy Intelligence have no information.
(S.O.I., Kingston, 1448R/8, to Admty., etc.)

Estimated approximate positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C., 1507A/8, 1508A/8.)

/1620.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1620. Training aircraft reported S/M in 058° 46' N., 004° 58' W., at 1620. No details and no further report received.
(A.C.O.S., 1705A/8.)

1338 G.M.T. By D/F Bearings U-Boat estimated within 60 miles of 041° N., 020° W., at 1338 G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1733A/8, to Admty.)

A.M./6. Following from C.C. Newfoundland (begins) - Report C2 of submarine sighted from shore a.m./6 proceeding east on surface from vicinity Horn Bay about 52-10N 55-35W., and approaching Battle harbour - (ends).
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1851Z/8, to Opnav.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Iceland (C). In response to request from the Americans who wish gradually to relieve our troops in Iceland (C) further British troops are to be withdrawn and it is hoped that the relief will be completed by the end of April 1942.

Operations by TRIDENT. TRIDENT has returned to Polyarno from patrol in Svaerholthavet and reports that on 3/11 she attacked an eastbound convoy in 70° 56' N. 26° 10' E. and obtained one certain hit, after which the convoy scattered and returned westward and TRIDENT estimates having obtained a hit on another of the ships. Ships were attacked also on 4/11 and on 7/11, one certain hit being obtained on the latter day in 71° 6' N. 26° 51' E., though the vessel was not seen to sink.

TIRPITZ. The TIRPITZ and EMDEN were seen by P.R.U. today to be alongside at Kiel. LUTZOW is in dry dock.

Weather. Bad weather caused some disorganisation of shipping today.

British Air Operations.

15 aircraft (including 4 Manchesters) attacked Dunkirk last night and 8 attacked Ostend.

Enemy Air Operations.

Faeroes. A single enemy aircraft flew over Thorshavn at 1000 today and dropped bombs in the sea off the town. It was engaged and 3 hits are reported.

/Tug.....

MOST SECRET

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

Tug BUCCANEER with B.P.T. in tow was bombed and driven ashore at 1815 today in Montrose Bay. BUCCANEER is considered to be salvable.

A few bombs were dropped on Ramsgate at 2345 today. Insignificant naval damage was caused.

Thames Estuary. Enemy aircraft were over the Thames Estuary early tonight and several bombs were dropped between 1935 and 1945. There is no definite report of mines being dropped.

Mining.

Mining in the Thames Estuary by enemy aircraft is suspected last night and tonight from 1800.

Mediterranean.

Destruction of two Enemy Convoys by Force K. An enemy convoy of 4 destroyers and 6 M/V's was sighted by Maryland A/C at 1355B/8 in 37.53 N., 16.56 E.

Force K (cruisers AURORA, PENELOPE, destroyers LANCE, LIVELY) left Malta at 1730B/8 at 28 knots to intercept.

Contact was made at 0040B/9, when the convoy was found to consist of 4 destroyers and 8 M/V's, with a second convoy of 2 destroyers and 2 M/V's joining.

/Fire.....

MOST SECRET

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Destruction of two Enemy Convoys by Force K. Contd.

Fire was opened at 0057, at 5700 yards and the first salvo hit the rear escorting destroyer.

As a result of the engagement, 2 destroyers were sunk in a few minutes and one was badly damaged; 9 M/V's were set on fire and sunk, including an ammunition ship which blew up. In addition, a 10,000-ton tanker was left ablaze, and air R/C reported her still burning at 1038B/9; she is considered a total loss.

UPHOLDER sinks one destroyer.

S/M UPHOLDER was in the area and reported 2 TRENTO class cruisers (apparently endeavouring to cover the convoys) and 6 destroyers, with 1 damaged destroyer in tow, at 1040B/9 in 37.12 N., 18.33 E. UPHOLDER sank one destroyer and torpedoed a second which was last seen in tow with stern under and fore foot out.
Air R/C subsequently indicated that the enemy force had withdrawn to Messina.

Force K sustained no damage or casualties. The enemy probably fired 12 torpedoes but obtained no hits. Force K was attacked by torpedo bombers a.m./9 without any hits being made, and returned to Malta at 1544B today.

The final summing up of the operations of Force K and UPHOLDER was that 4 destroyers and 10 merchant ships were sunk.

Operations by TRUANT.

TRUANT has returned from patrol in the Adriatic. A.M./23/10 she attacked a south-westbound convoy of 3 merchant ships and one A.M.C. and sank one ship of 3500-tons and hit the A.M.C. which was, however, able to rejoin the convoy at 10 knots. After an unsuccessful attack on a 3500-ton ship in ballast off Monopoli TRUANT engaged with gun-fire at 0739/24 and set the ship on fire: the ship was still burning at 1600. At 1500/31/10 TRUANT obtained one hit on a convoy consisting of 3 tankers and a destroyer close inshore off Punta Penna: TRUANT was in only 10 fathoms when the destroyer passed directly overhead; the destroyer searched but TRUANT was not discovered and got clear later. On 27/10 she successfully carried out a special landing operation.

/Air.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air attack on Naples.

17 Wellingtons were despatched to attack Naples last night, but owing to very bad weather being encountered some aircraft attacked Palermo, Catania and Syracuse as alternatives. About 15½ tons of H.E. and 3 tons I.Bs. were dropped at Naples.

Libya & Western Desert.

Operation "Glencoe" has been successfully completed and R.A.D. and destroyers have returned to Alexandria. Minor air raids and shelling of Tobruk continue but the routine work of the port has not been interrupted.

Suez Canal area.

Two enemy aircraft attacked the Suez Canal area in the early hours of this morning. No naval damage was reported, but a D.A. bomb destroyed a Canal Company's slip. CARLISLE engaged and drove off aircraft.

China.

French ships carrying rubber to Germany.

C.Z.M. has established air R/C and is sending 2 destroyers to Sunda Strait. C. in C. China has no cruisers available. (see 6/11.)

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

LA MOQUEUSE. Your 1845A/8. LA MOQUEUSE is not considered suitable or sufficiently seaworthy to stand up to Atlantic winter conditions. (C. in C. W.A., 1003A/9 to Admty).

NESTOR. NESTOR is required for escort duty leaving U.K. about 1/12.
2. Request you will report whether it is expected that vessel will be ready to leave Plymouth not later than 29/11. (D.O.D. H., 1659A/9 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Iceland Garrison. In response to request from Americans who desire gradually to relieve our troops in Iceland (C) it has been approved that further withdrawal of our troops should begin. I hope the relieftwill be completed by the end of April. (V.C.N.S., 2222A/9 to A.C.I.C.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Iokanskie. Following received. Repeats S.B.N.O. North Russia 1740/8. (D.O.D. (H), 1112A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

Russian Naval Transport Officer. A.M.1115/8. It was intended that Captain Chekin, Soviet Naval Transport Officer, now in London, should have taken passage in escort of P.Q.4 as liaison officer.
2. As this appears now to be impracticable arrangements are being made for him to go in next P.Q. convoy in which Russian ships are included. (A.C.N.S. H., 1306A/9).

Movements.

PYTCHLEY. Intend to sail PYTCHLEY for Scapa at 0900/10 calling at Methil, remaining there that night and proceeding at 0300/11. Request fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1108/9).

/ESCAPADE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

ESCAPADE. Sail at 0800/10 for Scapa, observing speed restriction as in R.A.(D) H.F's 1348/3/11. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1229/9 to ESCAPADE.)

WRESTLER. Your 0916/8. Unless you require fuel at Plymouth, comply with my 1024/8. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1255/9 to WRESTLER).

O.9 H.33, Z.5 At 1900A/10 intend to sail O.9 and H.33 escorted by Z.5. from Lough Foyle to Rothesay in accordance with S.7's 1126A/6. E.T.A. Rothesay 0800A/11. (N.O.I.C., Londonderry, 1302A/9).

TRIDENT. Intend to sail TRIDENT for U.K. P.M./15th routed as follows to arrive at position (d) at 2000A/22. Thence as ordered by F.O.(S) Speed of Advance 7 knots.
(2) TRIDENT proceeding on surface at C.O's discretion. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side of this route when West of 15° E., from 1200A/18.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1809C/9).

H.34, H.50, Z. 5. My 1126/6. Rothesay Z.5. escorting H.34 and H.50 sailed for Londonderry. (Capt. S.7., 2002A/9).

Operations.

Interception of Enemy heavy Unit. CUMBERLAND. Request you sail CUMBERLAND at 0800Z/10 for Hval Fiord.
(ii) During passage CUMBERLAND is to be prepared to act on reports from surface or air patrols in Iceland - Faeroe Is. passage.
(C. in C. H.F., 1029/9 to V.A.2).

Proposed attack on French Fishing Craft. C. in C. Plymouth's 1234/7. F.O.S. remarks on this subject are contained in his 1331/SM 4900 of 31/7/41 and 1603/S/M 0400 of 4/9/41.
(ii) If it is decided these fishing vessels are to be attacked, request suitable safeguards be established to cover the area concerned in operation "Function" contained in F.O.S. number SM 04318/25 of 7/11/41 (copy in transit to C. in C. Plymouth) and future similar operations. (F.O.S., 1203A/9).

/TRIDENT.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

TRIDENT Patrol. 3 M/Vs. hit.

TRIDENT (?arrived from Patrol Svaerholthavet. Patrol report. Following attacks: 1 at (?0920) C/3 in 70° 56' N., 26° 10' E., eastbound convoy, unknown number of M/Vs with escort trawlers. 1 hit certain. (2) at 0947C/3 attacked one 2,000 tons vessel from convoy previously attacked proceeding westward. Estimate one hit. (5) At 0240/7 in 71° 06' N., 26° 57' E., fired three mark eight torpedoes at one M/V escorted by two trawlers. One hit certain. Vessel turned away but was not observed to sink. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1326C/9).

Reported M/Vs. (see Enemy Intelligence)

C. in C. Rosyth 1538A/9. Attack only in accordance with my 1701A/3 and my 1244A/4. (F.O.S., 1624A/9 to P.35).

British Air Activity.

P.R.U.of Bergen, Haugesund, Stavanger, Kristiansund, and Oslo now being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1125/9).

151 Wing and Polish Personnel for U.K.

It has been decided to withdraw the R.A.F. personnel of 151 Wing comprising 30 officers and 505 airmen from Murmansk to U.K.
2. In addition to the above there are a number of Polish airmen and naval ratings believed to number about 800.
3. No troopship can be spared for the above and the accommodation available in the storeships is limited.
4. Request you arrange for their embarkation in escorts of returning convoys as follows.
(1st S.L., 2328A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Faeroes.

One Junker's 88 approached Thorshavn at 1016 today and jettisoned bombs in sea when engaged by shore defences. It is considered that aircraft was damaged. Own Fighter Patrol thought to be near South Island at the same time. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1124A/9).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

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Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Faeroes Contd. Enemy aircraft made low flying attack on Thorshavn harbour also town and harbour of Klaaksvig yesterday at midday. 2 naval casualties from Cannon fire in former and Faeroes fishing vessel sunk by bomb in latter with no casualties. (O.C. Troops, Faeroes, 1223/9).

Convoy O.G.76 2 F.W. A/C shot down. On 8/11 one Martlet shot down by F.W. 200 in 41° 27' N., 15° 18' W. 2 F.W. 200 shot down in (?43°) 04' N., 14° 30' W., and (?43°) 18' N., 14° 18' W., respectively. One F.W. 200 escaped undamaged owing to poor visibility Convoy probably seen only by first F.W.200 shot down. (EMPIRE AUDACITY, 1215A/9).

Dover bombed on 8/11. Between 1755 and 1805 yesterday enemy aircraft dropped six H.E. Bombs and some Incendiaries in Dover area. Incendiaries fell on Admiralty Pier but were quickly extinguished. At 2310/8 three H.E. Bombs; superficial damage to Abbotscliffe R.N. W/T Station, Water and Electrical supplies and telephone communications cut off. No naval casualties. (V.A. Dover, 1311A/9).

Convoy F.N.46. BRABO bombed on 8/11. BRABO (Belgian) bombed 2 miles south of 62D Buoy at 1805/8. Slight damage by near misses. Docked Immingham, 1330/9. (F.O. Humber, 1540A/9)

BUCCANEER. Proceed forthwith to assist Tug BUCCANEER with battle practice target in tow, bombed and in difficulties 035° 2 miles from Usan. Report situation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1856/9 to ECHO)
Lifeboat is reported to be standing by BUCCANEER. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2000/9 to ECHO)
Fleet Tug BUCCANEER has drifted ashore. Battle Practice Target probably still adrift in vicinity. Proceed in execution of previous orders. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2114/9 to ECHO)

Convoy F.S.42. CHLORIS damaged on 8/11. CHLORIS (British 1180 tons) slightly damaged by A/C at 1804/8 N.E. of Coquet Island, but proceeded under her own power. (D.S., 796)

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Mining.

Bristol Channel. Normal conditions will be resumed at all Bristol Channel Ports from A.M./11 unless further minelaying takes place. Except Walton Bay anchorage remains closed. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1201A/9).

S.N.83 B. Completed. (R.A.M., 1509/9).

North Russian waters. My 1509C/29 and Q.Z.R. 22. Mines have also been laid between 70° 56' 10" N., 25° 45' E., -and 70° 54' 40" N., 25° 46' E. Mageroy Sund to westward a line drawn 30° from 70° 52' 30" N., 25° 55' E., to Mageroy Island is considered to be dangerous due to mines. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1529C/9).

Mines believed to be British sunk. Details. (A.C.I.C., 1814N/9).

Sweep by 4th M/S.F. My 1030A/7 and your 1556A/7. I cannot guarantee that Area so far reported cleared by me is in fact 100% clear without further high percentage search, as weather conditions have been so bad that it has not been possible to obtain accuracy required for a clearance. If it is desired to use Gap so far swept I consider it is essential all ships should be swept through it. Submit FITZROY (S.O.'s Ships) and 1 other should proceed to Boiler Cleaning at Aberdeen forthwith if there is no immediate prospect of sweeping. If sweeping is likely to be resumed before 16/11 suggest FITZROY carries out her own temporary Boiler Cleaning here. (S.O. 4th M/S F. 1645A/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

White Sea Approaches. Your 1232A/3. C. in C. Northern Fleet considers due to approaching ice conditions the laying of this field should now be deferred. Only destroyers are available for minelaying and information is still awaited whether British mines are suitable for laying from these vessels. Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F. (B.S.N.O. North Russia, 2210C/9).

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Enemy Intelligence.

12 M/Vs. Aircraft reports 12 merchant ships 270° Listergle, steering 270° 5 knots at 1520/9. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1538/9 to P.35)

Norwegian Coastal Traffic. Reported that convoys between Tromso and Kirkenes are now continuing passage during dark hours. (B.2)
(D.D.I.C., 1548A/9 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).

German Destroyer. Reported that atleast one German destroyer has returned to North Norwegian waters. Graded B.2. (D.D.I.C., 1219A/9 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).

Technical.

H/F D/F Gear for W.A. Destroyers. H/F D/F has been reported as of the greatest value to BROKE and ROCHESTER in their recent periods of escort duty. Request every effort be made to hasten supply of equipment to A and F class destroyers joining this command. It is requested that H.M. ships should always be given preference of supply over Merchant Ships. (C. in C. W.A., 0029A/9 to Admty).

Faeroes. Proposed additional W/T set. My 1515/8. During both attacks enemy aircraft and own Fighter Patrol were both in sight at the same time and this has occurred on previous occasions.
W/T report was immediately broadcast on 1570 k.c's but was apparently not received by our aircraft in time for her to make contact with the enemy. It is felt that similar delay resulting in failure to engage the enemy is bound to recur until a suitable wireless set can be provided near operation room at Thorshavn with the necessary R.A.F. personnel to work it. My 1122A/2 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1028A/9).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

VIVACIOUS. Anchored in Southern examination anchorage with jammed rudder. (F.O. Humber, 1101A/9).

ANGLE (Engine defect 8/11)
P.C.S. 060° 08' N., 016° W., 180° 1 knots. (ANGLE, 1110Z/9).
My 1120Z/8. Am now unable to maintain head steam. Drifting before Easterly wind unable to steer. Will require a tow.(ANGLE, 1240Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)
Detail 2 corvettes not ROSELYS to assist ANGLE. (C. in C. W.A. 1547A/9 to BELMONT)
Sail a tug from Stornoway escorted by ST. APOLLO to assist ANGLE. (C. in C. W.A., 1603A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
FREEBOOTER escorted by ST. APOLLO is to be sailed with despatch.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1623A/9 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).
Have been detailed with HEARTSEASE and we are proceeding to ANGLE's assistance.
(RENONCULE, 2100 Z/9).

FRISKY. Your 1058/9. (Reporting engine trouble)
Return to Campbeltown.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1159A/9 to FRISKY).

EMPIRE CURLEW. A.M.1752A/31/10 and C.O.A.C. Halifax 1826Z/6.
EMPIRE CURLEW is to proceed to Belfast for repairs to D.C. before proceeding to Liverpool.
(D.O.D. H., 1320A/9).

BOY ANDREW sunk. H.M. Drifter BOY ANDREW lost with all hands near No. 7 Reflector Buoy in Firth of Forth today after collision with S.S. ST. ROGNVALD.
(N.O.I.C. Leith, 1540/9 C. in C. Rosyth, 1610/9).

MONARDA (collision 8/11) Commodore I/C Sheerness reports attempt to float MONARDA today unsuccessful. Intends make further attempt next springtide about 19/11. (C. in C. Nore, 1747A/9).

SHERWOOD. My 1323A. SHERWOOD returned to Clyde with engine defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1847A/9).

/LARS KRUSE....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

LARS KRUSE. S.S. LARS KRUSE beached close off Grain Pier Sheerness after striking submerged object. Intend to put vessel on higher ground on to-night's high water. Arranging immediate discharge into lighters.
(A.S.O. Sheerness, 1945/9).

STANLAKE. Received at 1903 G.M.T. S O S from STANLAKE. Unmanageable 54° 50' N., 5° 30' W., position dangerous, require assistance. (Port Patrick Radio, 2003/9).
Following received by Port Patrick from STANLAKE. Here making towards Cosewall Point from position given. Still need assistance. (Rosyth, 2045/9).
Following received from Port Patrick:-
From N.O.I.C. Stranraer to STANLAKE.
Assistance coming with all speed from Larne.
(C. in C. W.A., 2046/9).
Proceed with all despatch to assist STANLAKE.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2059 A/9 to ZWARTE ZEE).
Sailed ZWARTE ZEE in accordance with F.O.I.C. Greenock's 2059A/9.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 2255A/9).

Shipping & Convoys.

PASTEUR. Due Clyde 12/11 has following personnel on board.
(D. of S.T., 0128A/9).

H.X.157 My P.C.S. at 1200A/9 60° N., 16° 25' W., (320°?) 8 knots. HEARTSEASE astern of me but not in contact. At 1300/8 ordered CAPE WARWICK with 1 merchant ship who were to westward of convoy to proceed independently via Minches.
(BELMONT, 1131Z/9).
Your 1115A/9. My P.C.S. are 060° 13' N., (015°?) 46' W., 108°, 3 knots.
(HEARTSEASE, 1710Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.N.34. My 1222Z/7. Following received from F.O.I.C. Greenock, begins SHERBROOKE returned to Clyde with defects, ends.
(D.T.D., 1201Z/9 to Opnav).

/H.X.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

H.X.156. Three stragglers at M.O.M.P. All ships now arrived. (D.T.D., 1205A/9 to Opnav)

P.Q.3. Sailed P.Q.3 consisting of WANSTEAD, TREKIEVE, CAPE CORSO, BRIARWOOD, SAN AMBROSIO, CAPE RACE, EL CAPITAN, and COCLE at 1400N/9. S.of A. 7 knots. (A.C.I.C., 1144N/9).
P.Q.3 H Y Para. 4. B.1 (one) MACBETH, HAMLET. B.3. position L at 1000Z/14. D.2. 0900Z/20. (A.C.I.C., 1601N/9).

SOURABAYA. GLENARTNEY. S.S. SOURABAYA with passengers including 100 Naval personnel is due to sail from Glasgow for New York soon after 12/11.
2. S.S. GLENARTNEY due to sail from Glasgow about 14/11 has important stores on board.
3. Request you will arrange for them to be afforded special protection in the appropriate convoys. (D.O.D. H., 1531A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BENCLEUCH. S.S. BENCLEUCH due to sail approx. 14/11 from Leith has important stores on board.
2. Request you will arrange for her to be afforded special protection in the appropriate convoys. (D.O.D. H., 1532A/9 to C. in C. Rosyth).

W.S.12 Z. Part company with convoy after dark 10th and proceed Greenock. You will be required to act as A.A. escort to W.S.12 Z and to embark Admiral Kharmalov and party at Greenock on 12/11 in accordance with Admty 2259A/8. (C. in C. W.A., 1625A/9 to CAIRO).-

W.N.3. Commodore and leading ships crossing 270° Cape Wrath making good seven knots. Convoy probably scattered owing to bad weather. (VELETA, 2050A/9).

S.P.10. Cancelled. SHELLBRITT 11 not sailing owing to weather. (R.N.O. Shoreham, 2145/9).

F.S.43. In present weather F.S.43 will be 5 hours late at 20 C. buoy. (VALOROUS 2239A/9 to N.O.I.C. Tyne).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping.	Passings 8/11. Westward FORMIGNY full. Eastward OREGON, CALEDONIEN both full. (V.A. C.N.A., 0919A/9 to Admty. for M.E.W.) Escorts to these, see D.O.R.10/11.
OLYMPUS. 0.21.	W.M.P.10 para 16. For passing through (b) read on crossing 002° 00' E. (2) Netherlands S/M 0.21 leave Gibraltar 1830/9 through 036° 25' 002° 00' W. and 038° 25' 002° 00' E. 13 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1338A/9 to OLYMPUS). My 1338A/9 for 038° 25' read 038° 35'. (F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/9 to OLYMPUS).
AZALEA, S.C.91	If fuel permits return forthwith direct to Gibraltar. Fuel at Ponta Delgada if lack of fuel necessitates. Acknowledge when 100 miles clear of convoy and report action taken. (F.O.C.N.A., 1634A/9 to AZALEA).
0.21.	Sailed Netherlands S/M 0.21 in accordance with my 1310A/3 passing through 38.35 N. 02.00. E. about 0600/12 Q.B.Q. 57, Q.B.B. 215. (F.O.C.N.A. 1836A/9 to C. in C. Med.)
CLYDE. JONQUIL.	From position B. steer to pass through 35.00 N. 19.00 W. and thence to position A. (F.O.C.N.A. 1948A/9 to CLYDE, JONQUIL).

South Atlantic.

HOXA, ROMEO, reason for call at Ponta Delgada.	Your 1323/23/10. C.O. of HOXA states that he was ordered by C. in C. ?South Atlantic on 8/9 to proceed to Ponta Delgada for bunkers in company with ROMEO, KOS VII and KOS IX. Message was passed by loud speaker from ENCHANTRESS. (2) During passage it was necessary to tow KOS VII and KOS IX owing to engine room defects and shortage of fuel. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0940B/9 to Admty.)

/BEVER.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

BEVER
BOKSBURG. H.M. South Africa Ships BEVER and BOKSBURG will sail from Durban p.m./10 E.T.A. Beira a.m./14 S. of A.8. (group omitted) knots routed in shore direct.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1108Z/9 to N.O.I.C. E.Africa etc.)

O.S.9. Weather damage to T.L.C's. Following vessels in convoy O.S.9. sustained damage and loss of part deck cargo in heavy weather:- REMBRANDT lost forward and after sections of T.L.C.105. MADRAS CITY lost after section of T.L.C.110. ITTERSUM some damage to cargo. Cargo has been secured and all vessels can proceed to destinations but REMBRANDT and MADRAS CITY will require repairs before loading homeward. (S.S.T.O. Freetown 1415N/9 to D.of S.T.)

Force G. Urgency of F.O.Force 'G's arrival at Singapore necessitates stay of PRINCE OF WALES being as short as possible over 48 hours. Request air passage for Adm. Phillips to Pretoria to be ready as soon after his arrival as he may require it.
2. Facilities for Press photographers and controlled interviews will be afforded on board. Date of release will be communicated to you by F.O. Force 'G'.
(1st. Sea Lord 1945A/9 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Possible Vichy reprisals for "Bellringer". Your 1351A/8. As a precaution am sailing DUNEDIN at dawn/10 and DORSETSHIRE as soon as fuelled to cover S.L.92 and subsequently O.S.10 from possible trouble. This leaves no cruiser escort for ACADIA returning to U.S.A. via Trinidad but I think this can be accepted.
(C. in C.S.A. 2049N/9 to Admty.)

Force Q. Arrival 0840/9. DUNEDIN, QUEEN EMMA, PRINCESS BEATRIX. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2101N/9 to Admty.)

93 M/S Group. Your 1550A/7. Hope 3 out of 4 of 93rd M.S. Group will sail from Lagos shortly. Delay caused by defects and sickness of crews for which no reliefs of right type are available on S.A.Station. Latest set back has been sickness of group Commander, relief for whom is being sought from Station resources.
(C. in C.S.A. 2152N/9 to Admty.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

General.

S/Ms.	Arrivals 9/11 PORPOISE, P.31. (V.A. Malta 0930B/9 to Admty.)
"Landmark"	Your 1245A/7. Approved. (C. in C. Med. 1105B/9 to V.A. Malta.)
MAURO CROCE (Italian)	Departed 8/11 Genoa. (Barcelona 1215/9 to M. of W.T.)
Air Operations.	Western Desert, night 6/7. 3 Blenheims which carried out night sweep for shipping off coast of Cyrenaica made no sightings and subsequently attacked harbour works Apollonia and barge in harbour with bombs and M/G fire, damage unobserved. My A.875, 8/11, Para.2. Following are amplified details Wellington operations night 7/8. In very bad weather 3 Wellingtons carrying 4000 lb. bombs took off with 5 others to attack Benghazi. 2 Wellingtons only reached Benghazi where 1 claims to have dropped its 4000 lb. bomb. Second Wellington dropped 2500 lbs. bombs in neighbourhood of Benghazi. Second 4000 lb. bomb was jettisoned in sea and third dropped in Bardia. 2 Wellingtons bombed Martuba landing ground and lights seen on route. Of 14 Wellingtons which took off subsequently 7 were recalled, 2 other jettisoned bombs, and further 1 returned with engine trouble. 3 of remaining 4 reached Benghazi where weather cleared after 0300 hrs. and dropped 7500 lbs. bombs without visible effect, fourth Wellington bombed Bardia. Night 7/8. F.A.A. Albacore abandoned offensive night recco of area north-west of Sollum owing cloud over which area Albacore dropped bombs through cloud gaps on dispersed M.T. and stores near Sollum. 6 Blenheims despatched to attack M.T. repair depot at Derna found objective covered 7/10 cloud. 1 bombed repair depot, 3 attacked dump north of landing ground. Remaining Blenheims attacked M.T. west of Derna and A/A gun positions at Ras El Qin. Day 8/11. 9 Marylands were despatched to attack Berka aerodrome with Benina as alternative objective Marylands arrived over Benghazi area at midday and finding both objectives obscured by 8/10 to 10/10 cloud at 4000 feet dropped 72 250 pound bombs west of Benina. 2 Fortresses which

/left ....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Air Operations contd.

left in the early morning to attack Benghazi Harbour found objective covered by 9/10 cloud on arrival there about 1300 hours. 2000 pound bombs dropped, results unobserved. 2000 pound bombs also dropped on Sollum.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1222/9.)

Suez Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587.
(A) Night 8/9, 0129-0534, calm cloudy.
(B) High level attack by two E/A on Suez and Gulf of Suez. (C) H.E. (D) About 8 bombs all in Suez area including one D.A. (E) Army canteen club hit, no other damage, no casualties.
(F) 5 fighters patrolling. no interceptions, A/A barrage results unknown. (G) Searchlights active and balloons up.
(S.B.N.O. S.C.A., 1301B/9 to Adty.) See also 1307B/11.

Tobruk navigation.

Following is a repetition of T.O.O. 1403/5 (N.T.in W.R.) Med.1022/586/19 of 15/7/1941. Request early reply. In view of fact that 28 known wrecks now exist at Tobruk in the anchorage area of 1½ square miles request that O.U.5254/38 be amended to allow pilotage for this port to ships drawing more than 14 feet. All pilotage, invariably at night, is now carried by Naval Officers. (Ends.)
(C. in C. Med., 1325/9 to Admty.)

Black Sea, situation.

Extract from 1604/6 from N.L.O. Black Sea to Admiralty (quoted). (D.N.I. 1434A/9 to C. in C. Med.)

ABBAZIA.

Now expected Istanbul from Piraeus next 72 hours. Graded C.5. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1705B/9)

3 Malta Night Raids.

3 alarms night 8/9. 1740 hours, 12 raiders approached singly 2 over Island. Bombs Ta Kali Rabat area and sea, no damage or casualties. 2343 hours, 1 raider circled Gozo, bombs in sea. 0350 hours, 3 raiders approached singly did not cross coast no illumination or interceptions, 2 alarms.
Day 9/11, R/C aircraft flying great height 0829 hours, 2 crossed coast, no interceptions. 1146 hours, second R/C, 2 over Island, A.A. fired.

/Convoy

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

Convoy (attacked by Force K.)

Day 8/11 p.m. R/C Gulf Kalamata, Zante, nothing seen. P.M.R/C Kerkennah, Zuara, Tripoli, and same R/C 9/11 saw nothing. 1400 hours shadowing Convoy 6 M.V. 4 D/Rs sighted by R/C 1150 hours (see my 1230, 8/11) failed find owing very low cloud bad visibility. Special Wellington despatched 1930 hours same mission and failed owing electrical effects. Cephalania, Corfu, R/C. 0905 hours, white Hospital ship seen 135° Cape Spartivento 35 miles, course 085° 9 knots. 0615 hours 1 large D/R 1 medium D/R stationary 148° Cape Rizzuto 94 miles. 0803 hours seen same position, course 330°, 6 knots. Kalamata, Zante, R/C 1023 hours 106° Cape Spartivento, 130 miles, 1 tanker 4000 tons burning, 1 stationary M/V 5000 tons, 2 cruisers, 3 D/R, escorted 3 large 2 small aircraft. This Convoy part of above 6 M/V 4 D/R attacked by Naval Force.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1755/9)

Augusta, Syracuse, Lecce, Messina, Naples, Palermo, Catania bombed.

Night 8/11. 5 naval aircraft attacked submarine base Aurumta (?Augusta), time over target 2010 hours to 2038 hours. Large fire started oil tanks, growing immense blaze visible 25 miles. 1 aircraft attacked Syracuse in error, bombs burst quayside. 4 Wellingtons to Brindisi failed to find owing bad weather, bombed Lecce. Messina. Other results not observed as bombs dropped through cloud gaps. 17 Wellingtons to Naples, very bad weather obscured target and some aircraft attacked alternative targets Palermo, Catania, Syracuse. Results, Naples etc.
(H.Q. Malta 1758/9, 1800/9.)

PROTEUS.

Leave patrol p.m./11 passing through 036° 02' 023° 37' and 035° 08' 023° 07' 15, latter at approx. noon/12 and thence through 032° 52' 028° 33' and direct to end Alexandria searched channel arriving in Sanctuary at 0500B/15. THORN will be routed to pass through Kaso Straits p.m./12. (Capt. S.1, 1851B/9 to PROTEUS.)

/Situation ....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report 165.

Central Mediterranean. Force K. intercepted and destroyed two convoys at 0047/9 in 036° 59' N. 018° 07' E. from D/F bearings. Enemy cruisers were apparently endeavouring to cover convoys.
See A.M.1510/9.
2. A.M. 2005/7 para A. Blenheims attacked convoy during day 8/11. After second attack at 1400/8 the smaller ship was reported abandoned and low in water position 035° 07' N. 019° 45' E. having been hit in first attack. Larger ship was also left on fire.
3. Submarines. UPHOLDER sank enemy U-Boat at 0400 in 036.17 N. 016.22 E. 4. TRUANT returned from successful patrol in Adriatic (A) attacked south-west bound convoy of three M/Vs and one A.M.C. a.m.23/10 (?79) miles 105° from Santa Maria Di Leuca. Leading ship 3500 tons torpedoed and sunk. A.M.C. 8000 tons also hit but able to rejoin convoy at ten knots.
(B) After unsuccessful attack on 3500-ton ship in ballast off Monopoli, TRUANT engaged with gunfire at 0739/24 until ship in flames. Aircraft forced TRUANT to dive but at 1600 ship still seen burning. (C) At 1500/31 October in position 080° Punta Penna 4.5 miles, scored one hit on convoy of three tankers and one destroyer close inshore. TRUANT was in only 10 fathoms and destroyer passed directly overhead when at 50 feet. Submarine bottomed and buried bows in mud 4° down while destroyer steamed around but was able to get clear later and proceeded seaward undamaged. (D) Special landing operation carried out successfully on 27/10
5. Operation "Glencoe" successfully completed. R.A.D. and destroyers have returned to Alexandria.
6. Red Sea. Further minor air raids on Gulf of Suez Area night 8/9. CARLISLE engaged aircraft. No damage reported.
7. Western Desert Minor air raids and shelling continue but routine work of Port has not been interrupted.
8. My 1926/6, para 2 (U.Boat 32' W. of Alex. at 2220/5) report confirmed and U-Boat thought to have been damaged in subsequent attack.
(C. in C. Med., 2141B/9 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy.

Commanding Officers. List of C.Os of ships in action, from Admiralty announcement 9/11 to Press and B.B.C :-
AURORA - Captain W.G. Agnew R.N.
PENELOPE - Captain A.D. Nicholl R.N.
LANCE - Lieut.Comdr. R.W.F. Northcott R.N.
LIVELY - Lieut.Comdr. W.F.E. Hussey R.N.

Position. 6 Merchant Vessels 4 Destroyers bearing 060°. Distance 5 miles. Course unknown. My position 36.59 N., 18.07 E.
(S.O. Force K. 0047/9.)

Numbers sunk. Following received from S.O. Force K (Begins) Estimated 2 destroyers and 10 merchant vessels sunk, 2 destroyers escaped. T.O.O. 01 (?53)B/9 (Ends). Convoy was previously reported as 4 destroyers and 6 merchant vessels.
(V.A. Malta, 0330B/9 to Admty.)

UPHOLDER report of enemy force. 2 Trento class Italian cruisers, 6 destroyers, P.C. and S. 037° 12' N., 018° 33' E. 340°, 6, one damaged destroyer being towed. Weather report. (UPHOLDER 1040B/9 to V.A. Malta.)
2 enemy cruisers 3 destroyers 2 merchant ships 037° 20' N. 018° 45' E. circling one merchant ship on fire at 1038B/9.
(Capt. S. 10, 1145B/9 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

Press Reports. Any press stories on action by Force K. are to be held until permission is given to release by Admiralty. Stories are to give no indication (a) of composition of force (b) that force is operating from Malta. Stories should be unsigned and have no Malta dateline. Desirable to suggest that Force K. operates from Alexandria and that encounters are fortuitous.
(D.P.D., 1338A/9, to V.A. Malta) Cancelled, see 2011A/9.)

Return of Force K. Arrival 9/11 AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE, LIVELY.
(V.A. Malta, 1344B/9 to Admty.)
Force K. has returned to harbour.
(Capt. S. 10. 1615B/9 to S/Ms on Patrol.)

/Report .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy contd.

Report of Action.

Your 0830A/9.
(i) Enemy convoy sighted by Maryland at 1355B/8 consisting of 4 destroyers and 6 merchant vessels in 037° 53' N. 016° 56' E.
(ii) Force K. sailed from Malta at 1730B/8 and intercepted at 0040B/9.
(iii) Convoy then found to consist of 4 destroyers and 8 merchant vessels with a second convoy 2 destroyers and 2 merchant vessels joining.
(iv) Result of engagement. 2 destroyers (W.D. Note.- UPHOLDER 1901B/9 says 1 destroyer) sunk and one damaged. 9 Merchant vessels set on fire and sunk, including one ammunition ship which blew up. In addition 10,000 ton tanker left furiously ablaze and air report still burning at 1038B/9. Considered total loss.
(v) UPHOLDER reports 2 TRENTO class cruisers, 6 destroyers with one damaged destroyer in tow 037° 12' N. 018° 33' E. at 1040B/9.
(vi) No damage or casualties to Force K. No prisoners taken.
(vii) Force K. attacked by torpedo bombers a.m./9. No hits.
(viii) Attack under command Captain Agnew of AURORA was carried out with great skill and determination, reflects the very greatest credit.
(V.A. Malta, 1510B/9 to Admty.)
Note. For report of R/C aircraft, see H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1755/9.)

Enemy Withdrawal to Messina. Orders to UPHOLDER, URGE.

Air R/C 9th indicates enemy naval force withdrawn to Messina. UPHOLDER proceed in execution of previous orders. Choice of following targets for URGE before proceeding to patrol: one Merchant ship 037° 16' 017° 56' stopped at 1341. One Merchant ship 037° 26' 018° 06' 095° 3 knots at 1456.
(Capt. S. 10. 1813B/9 to UPHOLDER, URGE.)
My 1813B/9. Proceed to patrol M.
(Capt. S. 10. 2103B/9 to URGE.)
Torpedoes expended. E.T.A. 0631B/11. Keeping well clear southward of URGE. One destroyer sunk and one damaged but cruiser escaped. Weather report. (UPHOLDER, 1901B/9 to V.A. Malta.)
Give brief estimate of what destroyed and what escaped during Force K's action.
(V.A. Malta, 1926B/9 to UPHOLDER.)

/Press .....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 9.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Action of Force K. with Italian Convoy contd.

Press Reports. Cancel Admty. 1338A/9. It is now clear that the enemy must realise the identity and base of the force that attacked the convoy. Press stories may be transmitted at your discretion, for final censorship at Admiralty.
(W.P.D. 2011A/9 to N.A. Malta.)

Admty. Commendation. Congratulations on your brilliant and most successful action against such a strongly escorted enemy convoy.
(1st Lord 2103A/9 to S.O. Force K.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

AUSTRALIA
W.S.12 X.
NAILSEA
COURT
COLOMBO.

Your 1600/7. (i) Intend AUSTRALIA shall escort W.S. 12 X and provide liaison officer.
(ii) Following are revised arrangements for escort of MAURETANIA. COLOMBO will escort from Durban to vicinity of Mombasa relieved by CERES thenceforward. The delay to MAURETANIA if bad weather is met must be accepted.
(C.in C. E.I. 0826Z/9, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

REPULSE.

C.in C. Home Fleet's 1359B/14/7. Report by signal. (a) Whether you now consider that extensive refit before the end of the year is essential. (b) When you assume ship must be withdrawn from service for this refit.
(c) Any defects the repair of which by Singapore would assist to maintain efficiency.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1343A/9 to REPULSE).

China.

French
shipping.

C.O.I.S. Singapore's 1131/8. C.Z.M. has established air R/C and is sending 2 destroyers to Sunda Strait. I have no cruisers available.
(C.in C. China 0303Z/9 to C.in C. E.I.).

M.N.B.D.O.
Nancowry.

Your 1202/8. In view of unhealthy conditions at Nancowry consider it essential that personnel should be in good health on arrival. Concur therefore in your para (v). Delay will allow for further progress with anti-Malaria measures. Effort will be made to clear site before CLAN FORBES arrives. M.N.B.D.O. representatives, E.T.A. Colombo 18th, are bringing proposals.
(C.in C. China 0305Z/9 to C.in C. E.I.).

/A.M.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

M.N.B.D.O. Nancowry -Contd.

A.M. 1939 of 21/8. Para C. M.N.B.D.O. R/C parties from Nancowry recommend closing western entrance to harbour possibly by contact mines as they consider it will be impracticable to instal guns and D.E. minefields within a reasonable time owing to steep slopes and dense jungle. They propose site 2 guns on Naval point and 2 guns near Reids Point. I concur in this revised lay out which has many advantages including eliminating one area from anti-Malaria measures reducing requirements for tonnage and simplifying adminstration. I consider obvious disadvantages are acceptable.
(C.in C. China. 0309Z/9 to Admty.).

VILLE DE VERDUN PIERRE L.D. (French).

My 1131/8. Chesor R.N. 0730/7 indicates VILLE DE VERDUN will shortly proceed Tamatave. Now reported PIERRE L.D. in ballast, hence this was probably genuine destination.
(C.O.I.S.Singapore, 0317Z/9 to Admty.).

CORTELLAZZO (Italian).

My 0302/3. Departure approx. date 6/11. Possible she is trading under Japanese Charter.
(C.O.I.S.Singapore 0401Z/9 to Admty.).

America and West Indies.

W.S.12 X.

Opnav's 1525Z/8. W.S. 12 X. E.T.A. R/V position B 1200/10 G.M.T. This will be confirmed when time of departure is known. Opnav pass to C.in C. Atlantic Fleet and Cmdr. Task Group No.14.4.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 0345Z/9 to C.in C. A.F. etc.).
Cancel my 0345Z/9. Amended time of R/V will be signalled direct by Cdre. W.S. 12 X. Opnav pass to C.in C. Lant Cmdr. Task Group No.14.4.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1939Z/9 to C.in C. Lant.etc.).

/PHOEBE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

PHOEBE. Left Freetown 7/11 E.T.A. Trinidad 14/11. Leaves Trinidad 16/11. E.T.A. New York 20/11.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 09599/9 to DESPATCH PHOEBE).

P.511.
P.551. B.A.D.'s 1237R/8. Request C.O.A.C. issue instructions for route from New London to St. Johns N.F., and C.C.N.F. sail submarines when ready in accordance with F.O.(S). 1311A/2. B.A.D. pass to B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 10429/9 to C.O.A.C. C.C.N.F.).
My 1237R/8 P.551 delayed 3 days. Propose ship sails in company on 11/11.
(B.A.D. 1401R/9 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

DESPATCH. Leave Trinidad 14/11 and carry out following programme:-
Barbados, 15-16 /11.
St. Lucia,16-18 /11;
Antigua, 19-20 /11;
St.Kitts, 20-22 /11;
St.Thomas,22-23 /11.
Complete with fuel St. Thomas. Request B.A.D. notify U.S. authorities of visit to St. Thomas and arrange fuel.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1222/9 to S.O. W.Indies Force).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

2054 G.M.T/8. By D/F at 2054/8 G.M.T. U/Boat estimated to be to the Westward of Freetown and between 22° 00' W. - 25° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0438A/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1431A/9, 1432A/9.)

2018 G.M.T. D/F bearings at 2018 G.M.T. indicate Italian U/Boat in area 46° to 47° N., 6° to 8° W., inward bound.
(D.D.I.C. 2207A/9, to UNA.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch for enemy units.

CUMBERLAND sailed from Scapa this morning for Hval Fiord (due 1500A/12) RODNEY having refuelled, left Loch Ewe on the evening of 8/11 to cover the Iceland-Faeroes passage from first light this morning.

Weather.

A gale is blowing and the movements of ships and convoys has been interrupted. The ports of Aberdeen, Peterhead and Blyth were closed this evening.

Enemy Air Operations.

East Coast.

Convoy F.N. 48 was attacked near 18D Buoy at 1725A today. QUANTOCK shot down a DO 215. No damage to ships is reported.

The Hartlepool Examination Vessel LONGSCAR was damaged by air attack this morning.

Onebomb was dropped on Kings Lynn docks at 0500A today. No damage was caused.

Yarmouth Roads were bombed at 1518 and 1724; no damage or casualties occurred.

Convoy F.S.42 was bombed at 1245 today in 52° 43' N. 2° 0' E.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Perpetual".

MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, ARGUS, HERMIONE and 7 destroyers sailed from Gibraltar at 0230A today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

The Brazilian Govt. have purchased from Italy 7 ships which are refuging in their ports.

DEVONSHIRE reports a case of sabotage on board between 1200/9 and 0800/10. The damage has only nuisance value.

Mediterranean.

Malta. Enemy aircraft made 6 attempts to attack Malta last night and some bombs were dropped. No naval damage is reported.

Air operations. 3 Albacores bombed Augusta last night and Wellingtons carried out nuisance raids on Naples and Messina, bad weather having ruined their proposed programme.

Libya and Western Desert. Last night, 19 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi.

Black Sea. The Russian Naval authorities report that a Soviet S/M recently sank one of two large Roumanian liners believed to be KING CAROL and KING FERDINAND whilst they were northbound off the Bulgarian coast.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

There are 26 vessels, mostly Italian merchant ships lying sunk in the Red Sea and on the adjacent north east coast of Africa. A good proportion of these are hopeful salvage cases, and preparations are being made to salve them. This does not include ships inside Massawa harbour, for salving of which the U.S. Navy will be called on if the operation should prove to be beyond British capabilities.

MOST SECRET

10.11.41.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ST. MELLONS. Request that arrangements may be made for H.M. Tug ST. MELLONS as soon as ready to be sailed for Greenock and thence to Gibraltar at first convenient opportunity.
H.M. Tugs SEAMAN and SUPERMAN will not be sent to Gibraltar.
(C.C.R.T. 1126A/10.)

Holyhead Anchorage Patrol. Request you employ 19th M/L Flotilla to patrol as requisite when heavy concentration in Merchant Ship anchorage.
(C. in C. W.A., 1644A/10 to N.O.I.C. Holyhead.)

SULTANHISAR DEMIRHISAR (Turkish) Propose (a) to bring both ships up river as soon as weather moderates (b) to retain the date proposed in my 2258/9 for commissioning with those ratings now in Glasgow. This will enable ships to be stored and ready in all respects by the time Messrs. Denny have completed their work, when remainder of crews can join.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 2210/10.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Ice in White Sea. Ports. (A) White Sea. Broken ice up to 10 miles to N.W. of North Dvina L.V.
(B) Archangel. Two M/S berthed Ekonomia without ice breakers 9/11. Above Ekonomia ice will soon be too heavy for escorts even with 9 ice breakers. Minimum temperature at night minus 11° F.
(C) Molotovsk. Assisted by tugs escorts could berth easily. Admiralty pass to all addresses except S.B.N.O. North Russia.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 09120/10.)

Method of withdrawing Russian Forces. Proposed procedure for achieving withdrawal of Russian Forces in areas to East of 15° E.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2014A/10.)
See Lion Copy.

Movements.

CELIA, WINDERMERE. CELIA and WINDERMERE sailed 2315 in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 15462/7th.
(A.C.I.C., 0017N/10.)

/CITY OF.....

MOST SECRET

10.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

CITY OF DURBAN. — Subject to trials CITY OF DURBAN should complete refit 14/11. Following proposed sailing programme.
(F.O.I.C. London, 1155/10.)

O.9., H.33, Z.5. — My 1302A/9. Postponed for 24 hours owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1452A/10.)

UNA. — UNA leave patrol after dark 12th proceed diving by day through 046° 01' N. 005° 30' W. and 047° 59' N. 006° 00' W. to R/V with CUTTY SARK in 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 0800A/14. Light, S.B.R., and T.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.3., 1453A/10 to UNA.)

CUMBERLAND. — Scapa departure CUMBERLAND. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1500A/12 without fail 1600A.
(A.C.O.S. 1535A/10.)

CILICIA. — My 1645/3. Anticipate CILICIA will be leaving Clyde towards end of November for Freetown.
(S.O.W.P., 1620A/10.)

BLANKNEY. — In view of C. in C. W.A. 1601A/10. Cancel my 1426A/10.
(Capt. D. Londonderry 1821A/10.)

ALBURY. — My 1522/10. ALBURY will not now sail.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1848/10.)

SHARPSHOOTER. — Request you will sail SHARPSHOOTER to Scapa. On arrival at Scapa SHARPSHOOTER is to act under orders of C. in C. H.F.
(C. in C. W.A., 1906A/10 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit. — KENT is to pass boom at 1900Z/12 to carry out patrol to Westward Northern Patrol trawler lines covering Iceland Faroe Islands Passage.
(C. in C. H.F., 1228Z/10 and 2254Z/10.)
Scapa departure CUMBERLAND. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1500A/12.
(A.C.O.S. 1535A/10.)

/Troop.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 10.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Troop Embarkation Exercise. (a) Request permission as S.O. ships referred to in Admty. 2053/7 to arrange the following. (PRINCE CHARLES, 1243A/10 and 1244A/10 to V.A.C.T.C.)

British Air Activity.

RODNEY. A/S escort will be provided when weather conditions permit.
(A.C.I.C., 0018N/10 to RODNEY.)
Expect Hudson A/S escort from 0815N at R/V.
(A.C.I.C., 0701N/10 to RODNEY.)

Patrols. "Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0522/10.)
"Bert" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1216/10.)
My 1041/7. It is no longer possible to fly patrol "Stand" every 6 hours owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1907/10.)

Gear for VICTORIOUS. Your 1506/9. Owing to uncertainty of flying conditions greater part or all gear will be embarked CUMBERLAND who will sail about 1400A today Monday. (V.A., 2 1109A/10 to C. in C.HF.)

R.A.F. and Polish Airmen for U.K. Following are awaiting passage to U.K. from Murmansk (a) 50 R.A.F. Officers and about 500 airmen (b) 800 Polish airmen and Naval ratings. (iii) After arrival of P.Q.3 at Archangel or in White Sea, ocean escort is to proceed Murmansk and embark as many personnel as practicable priority being given to R.A.F.(?) (iv) Sailing of Q.P.3 and R/V for ocean escort are to be arranged with S.B.N.O. Archangel.
(C. in C.H.F., 1423Z/10 to C.S.10.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Ramsgate bombed. 4 H.E.s and a few incendiary bombs were dropped on Ramsgate at 2345/9. (Civil damage and casualties.) Slight damage to R.N. Sick Quarters windows. No other damage to Admiralty property or personnel reported.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate, 0740/10.)

/CRADDOCK.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

CRADDOCK sunk on 8/11.

R.N.O. Berwick reports Trawler POLAR PRINCE arrived at Berwick at 1730 with crew of Trawler CRADDOCK. Skipper of CRADDOCK reports that his vessel was bombed and sunk by two near misses about 3 miles east of St. Abbs at 1830/8 by German twin-engined plane probably Junkers. Crew of 9 were able to get into ship's boat and after 8 hours got aboard Trawler POLAR PRINCE which was anchored off Eyemouth. Same German plane dropped flares and bombed and machine-gunned other vessel but damage if any, not known. One man suffering from exposure.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1002/10.)

LONGSCAR damaged.

Hartlepool Examination Vessel LONGSCAR attacked by A/C a.m. today. Damaged by near miss. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1030/10.)

Faroes bombed on 9/11.

Single enemy aircraft made flight over Thorshavn at 1000/9. Effectively engaged by fire. Three hits observed. Plane dropped bombs at random in sea off town.
(O.C. Faroes, 1130/10.)

Convoy F.S.42.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy "Breast" in 52° 43' N. 2° 0' E.
(VERDUN, 1245/10.)

Kings Lynn bombed.

Enemy aircraft dropped one bomb on Kings Lynn docks 0500A/10. A. to D. Nil.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1310A/10.)

BUCCANEER damaged on 9/11.

Tug BUCCANEER with B.P.T. in tow was attacked by hostile aeroplane off entrance to Montrose at 1815/9. 1 bomb penetrated deck and ship's bottom without exploding and fires were started in ship by tracer bullets from machine guns. Vessel drove ashore in Montrose Bay at mouth of Northesk River at about 2100, B.P.T. standing about 200 yards away. All 43 of crew of BUCCANEER were safely landed today by rocket apparatus: some are slightly injured but hoped none seriously. BUCCANEER considered salvable when weather moderates.
(N.O.I.C. Dundee, 1716/10.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Convoy F.N.48. A/C shot down.

Have shot down one Dornier 215 in flames. My position 18D Buoy.
(QUANTOCK, 1725A/10.)

Enemy bombing Convoy "Prize" whose position is (indecipherable).
(VIVIAN, 1726/10.)

Yarmouth bombed.

Yarmouth Roads bombed 1558 and 1724. No damage or casualties.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1845A/10.)

Mining.

North Russian waters.

Your 1529C/9 para. 2. Request Western limit.
(D.M.S., 1018A/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Your 1018A/10. Western limit a line drawn 000° from 70° 54'30" N. 25° 37'30" E.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2201C/10 to Admty.)

Thames Estuary.

Enemy aircraft were over the Estuary early last night and several bombs were dropped and exploded on Maplin Sands in area South Shoebury Buoy to mid Shoebury Buoy between 1935 and 1945. Two heavy explosions with flashes at 1933 and one at 1940 reported in Foulness Area.
(X.D.O. Sheerness, 1544/10.)

Blyth.

Port of Blyth closed.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1914/10 to VIVIAN.)

Mines in Rosyth Command.

28th October to 4th November. The following drifting mines and German explosive floats have been dealt with in this Command. Details. Cancel my 1823/7/11.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2203/10.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Main Units.

Latest known positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1715A/10.) See Lion Copy.

TIRPITZ, EMDEN, LUTZOW.

Photographic R/C Kiel on 9/11 shows TIRPITZ and EMDEN alongside, LUTZOW in dry dock.
(D.D.I.C. 1141A/10.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Lights. A.4253 10/11. Request information as to whether North Foreland Light No.355 was illuminated night of 17/10 also Haisboro L.V. No.499 night of 25/10. If neither was illuminated request details of any lights illuminated in close proximity of Nos. 355 and 499 on nights in question. Information should include buoys stating colour of light.
(A.S.4 Air Ministry, 1130/10 to Admty.)

Aberdeen. Port of Aberdeen closed, on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1630/10.)

Peterhead. Peterhead Harbour closed on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1710/10.)

Elbow Buoy. Elbow Light Buoy approx. 1 mile south of its charted position.
(V.A. Dover, 1858A/10.)

Area 6. Admiralty Lettered Message H.F.
Reference C.A.M.S.I. 463. Navigation lights should not be burned in area 6A.
(A.C.N.S. T., 2358Z/10.)

Technical.

R.D.F. identification. My 2218A/2. Add to para. 2 (B). Position of detecting ship must be normal. (C) All such reports must be cancelled or amplified. If amplified as suspicious complete report must be made in fleet code for benefit of U.S. Ships. Para. 4 when practicable, detecting ship should subsequently confirm bearing of apparently friendly transmission by (Air Station?).
(C. in C. H.F., 1906/10 to H.F.8Z.)

Casualties and Defects.

STANLAKE (Broke down 9/11.) Coastguard Port Patrick. Received at 2316 G.M.T. Cancel assistance vessel now holding her own.
(Port Patrick, 0016/10.)

/WINONA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 10.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

WINONA. WINONA off A buoy urgently needs aid.
(N.L.O. Fighter Command, 0235 G.M.T./10.)
Departure Tugs KROOMAN and DIVERSION to meet WINONA between Number 5 Buoy and Yarmouth.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1410A/10.)
Arrival tugs DIVERSION and KROOMAN with S.S. WINONA. Vessel now anchored in Roads with tugs standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1805A/10.)

VOLLRATH THAM (Swedish) Intercepted. 0151 G.M.T. approx. from VOLLRATH THAM (Swedish) begin - S O S. We are sinking 1½ miles from Hubert Gat. Ends.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0251/10.)
Your 1128N/10. Message intercepted by Cullercoats W/T at 0151/10 G.M.T. from S.S. VOLLRATH THAM in distress off North Coast of Holland.
(D.D.I.C., 1909A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

DALCROY. Following received from DALCROY. Require naval assistance shutting off steam. Is DALCROY in company.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0816/10 to CAIRO.)

ANGLE (Broke down 8/11.) My position 0800Z, 060° 18' N. 017° 04' W. Have succeeded in starting at slow speed, course 122°, 1 knot.
(ANGLE, 0934Z/10.)
Am standing by ANGLE, approx. P.C.S. 060° 17' N. 017° W., 150°, 2 knots.
(RENONCULE, 1318Z/10.)

SUNFISH. Sheerness arrival SUNFISH in tow tug STALWART at 0850.
(C. in C. Nore, 1016A/10.)

CAPE ARGONA. Again developed serious boiler trouble on return to Tobermory. Probably caused by leaking tubes. Ship sailed for Belfast for repair at 1300 today.
(WESTERN ISLES, 1343A/10.)

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

S.C. 53. S.C. 53 is about 4 days late. Detach 3 corvettes forthwith to return to Londonderry. They will sail with VOLUNTEER and CALDWELL about 15/11 to meet S.C. 53. When relieved at M.O.M.P. remaining escorts return to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., C103A/10 to VANOC.)
Informing Opnav.
(D.T.D., 0838Z/10.)

Wabana convoys. Proposed abolition.
See America and West Indies.

W.N. 3. My 1230A/9. Ships did not sail owing to weather.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 0900A/10.)

W.N. 31. Am in 058° 45' N. 003° 50' W. with one ship. COTILLION 10 miles astern with 8 ships, I am not in touch, Commodore suggests attempt to re-organize convoy in Thurso Bay.
(VELETA, 0950A/10.)

P.Q. Convoys. Following for War Transport from S.S.T.O. View discharging conditions and strict control exercised by Russians consider any further time I spend here completely wasted. Having observed weather conditions outward passage damage done due to unsatisfactory stowage lashing and tomming strongly feel I can do better and more important work at loading ports. In P.Q.2, 11 Hurricanes in addition to other stores damage solely due to improper stowage and securing. Maclay concurs I should return next convoy to make personal report please advise if approved. Ends.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 10000/10.)

F.S.46, F.N.49, F.N.50. Amend my 1201/3/11.
1. Escorts for F.S.46 LIDDESDALE, SLEIPNER.
2. Times of sailings from Methil should be amended to conform to new timetable, vide C. in C. Rosyth's 1241/7/11.
3. F.N.49 is postponed 24 hours, escorts VERSATILE, WINCHESTER, and WHADDON. VERDUN transferring from F.S.42.
4. F.N.50 is cancelled.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1019/10.)

/F.N. 48.....

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

F.N.48. My 1745/9. No ships sailed from Humber on account of weather.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1020/10.)

F.S.42. Will not be arriving today.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1141A/10.)

F.S.43. No ships sailed from Humber on account of weather.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1503/10.)

Owing to bad weather am out of touch with convoy.
(ST. KENAN, 1540Z/10 to N.O.I.C. Iceland.)

Speed of Ships for Archangel. Your 0100A/9. NEVASTROI had previously been refused despatch to Archangel in view of speed being insufficient for slow 7½ knot convoy. Please say if minimum speed 8½ is necessary for all ships for Archangel particularly as Sparks is now loading WAZIRISTAN with concurrence of Ministry War Transport, London. Speed of WAZIRISTAN 7¾ knots.
(N.C.S.O. New York, 1700Z/10 to Admty.)

E.N. Convoys. Forecast of Northbound sailings from Methil.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1707/10.) See Lion Copy.

F.S.43. CORMORANT. F.S. No.43. CORMORANT in 057° 28' N. 001° 25' W. reports heavy wrought iron cargo adrift and in danger of holing ship's side. Wind S.E. force 9. Master states unable to turn round to return Firth of Forth without danger of capsizing. Have instructed him to lie head to wind until daylight. Am standing by.
(VIMIERA, 1729/10.)
F.S.43 at 20 E Buoy. 11 ships making 3 knots. CORMORANT hove off 20 T Buoy. Wind force 10 from S.E. Sea 77. Floating mine sighted in vicinity. 20 E Buoy extinguished.
(VALOROUS, 1847A/10.)

H.X.157. P.C.S. 061° 57' N. 021° 07' W., 130°, 6.
Wind veering and moderating.
(DOUGLAS, 1800Z/10.)

/P.Q. Convoys.....

MOST SECRET

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

P.Q. Convoys. Return of Airmen from Russia.

Admty. 2328A/9 propose that destroyers of P.Q. 3 turn back in Gorlo and proceed Murmansk. Cruiser fuel Archangel and then proceed Murmansk. Cruiser and Destroyers R/V with P.Q.3 off Ponoi.
(2) In subsequent convoys cruisers could turn back with destroyers provided no passengers and/or stores for Archangel on board.
(3) Propose (? journeys) be adjusted so that operation be completed by escort of Q.P.5.
(4) S.O. 1st M.S.F. concurs.
Admiralty pass to all addressees.*
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1852C/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
* Action taken by War Reg.

MANXMAN.

Sailing of MANXMAN postponed owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C Isle of Man, 1930A/10.)

Oban.

No arrivals no sailings and discharge at any ports owing to bad weather.
(Embarkation Officer, Oban, 2210/10 to War Office.)

F.S.44.

F.S.44 cancelled.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2251/10.)

RANGITATA, escort.

RANGITATA carrying service personnel to Gibraltar and Freetown will be ready to sail from Liverpool on 21/11.
2. Escort to Gibraltar will be provided by HURWORTH and 2 destroyers. The latter may be used as additional escort for H.G.76 on return voyage.
5. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide 2 destroyers mentioned in para. 2.
6. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange with C. in C. S.A. for escorts from Gibraltar to Freetown.
7. HURWORTH may be employed as escort as far as Freetown after which she should proceed to Mediterranean via the Cape at best speed or as ordered by C. in C. Mediterranean.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 2245A/10 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)
A.M. 2245A/10. This convoy will be referred to as "Gearbox".
(A.C.N.S. H., 2300A/10.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Perpetual".	Sailed for "Perpetual" 1st phase, MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, ARGUS, HERMIONE, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LEGION, ZULU, GURKHA, SIKH, ISAAC SWERS. (F.O.C.N.A. 0230A/10 to Admty.)
OLYMPUS	Attacked Derna (? unsuccessfully). My P.C. and S. 040° 09' N. 007° 01' E. 230° 10. Weather report. (OLYMPUS, 0957A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
French shipping.	Armed trawler L'AJACIENNE escorting French M/V's MAROC, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR, CAPITAINE LUIGI and SCHIAFFINO FRERES, with trawlers ROSEMONDE and JOSEPH ELISE, all loaded, passed Gibraltar eastbound 1400/10. (D.O.R., 12/11).
SHEAF CROWN.	Your 1729/7. Provided that SHEAF CROWN can maintain a speed of 7½ knots she can be included in a H.G. convoy as a special case. (D. of S.T. 2030A/10 to N.C.S.O. Lisbon).
O.G.76, Operation "Perpetual".	Daily Summary Ops. 202 Sqn. 2 Catalinas escort O.G. 76, 0730 - 1800 daylight operations only due to adverse sea conditions. Area covered 10° 45' W. to 09° 45' W. 1 Catalina escort Force H in operation "Perpetual" 0720 - 1800. Area covered 02° 30' W. to 0° 40' W. (200 Group, 2136/10).
JAY MYRLAND, KENNET.	Your 1245/10 not to C. in C. S.A. and Admiralty. Sail in company MYRLAND and after R/V KENNET proceed Freetown in accordance C. in C., Western Approaches' 0018A/17/10 to MYRLAND. (F.O.C.N.A. 2324A/10, 2342A/10 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Transport of Prisoners. Arrangements must be made to move 2,000 prisoners of War from South Africa to U.K. as soon as possible. W.O. signal to 203 M.M. Pretoria No. 98593 of 29/10 refers. 2. Troopships available appear to be NEA HELLAS, INDRAPOERA, ORONTES, VICEROY OF INDIA, DUCHESS OF YORK, OTRANTO, JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT, MOOLTAN and NIEUW HOLLAND. 3. Request you arrange accordingly within limits of Admty. 1936/25/9. Service personnel other than air crews returning to U.K. in these ships may be used as guard. (D.S.T., 0423A/10 to P.S.T.O Simonstown).

CANTON. Leave patrol and proceed towards Freetown at 15 knots. Report position and percentage fuel remaining. (C.in C. S.A., 0901N/10 to CANTON)

HAZELSIDE. Due Durban 4/11 from Freetown, not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0905B/10 to Admty. etc.)

EGRET, O.S.10. S.L.92. My P.C. and S. 0600N/10 013° 27' N. 019° 45' W. 270° 14 knots altering to 277° at 1700N/10. Non receipt of 439 was reported. Advisable Q.G.B.71 and 72 be passed to escort of O.S.10. Expect to join S.L. 92 1200N/11 with 86% of oil fuel remaing. (EGRET 1008Z/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation "Bellringer". Your 2103A/1 Para 5. Principal officers Vichy French ships (List in COMPIEGNE, BANGKOK, COMMANDANT DORISE). (N.O.I.C., East London, 1024B/10 to Admty.)

S.O.S. VOLLRATH THAM. Following received by Ascension W/T on 0205/10 (begins) S.O.S. DE SFON (VOLLRATH THAM) were sinking losin (Portion missed) Michtgehost (ends) Request information whether this Message was heard any other station. (C. in C. S.A., 1128N/10 to Admty.) W.D. Note. In distress off Ems River.

ROBIN GRAY. S.O.(I) Capetown's 1225B/6. Confirmed that ROBIN GRAY is now at Rio de Janeiro. She has engine defect and is expected to sail about end of month. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1142Z/10 to Admty.)

/Aircraft.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Aircraft for Colombo.

C. in C. East Indies 1206Z/18/10 and A.M. 1215A/6/11. If ten Swordfish and four Walrus are transferred by Wynberg to HERMES it will leave at Wynberg two Swordfish and nil Walrus serviceable vide My A 10 rendered on 4/11. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1143B/10 to C. in C. S.A.) Your 1215/6. Concur in sending 10 Swordfish and 4 Walrus from Wynberg to Colombo in HERMES. (ii) Intend to transfer 10 Swordfish and 3 Walrus to Wynberg from those en route to Freetown and ex Ribera. (C. in C. S.A. 1527N/10 to Admty.)

BULOLO.
ASTURIAS.
BIRMINGHAM.
ALCANTARA.

BULOLO remain in J.33 (c) and (d) till P.M./15, then proceed patrol K 32 K 33 fuelling Rio de Janeiro about 21 (/11. ASTURIAS on completion of escort duties proceed J 33 (c) and (d). Intend BIRMINGHAM after fuelling P.O.Z. 13/11 visit Montevideo 17/11 then if situation permits proceed Falkland Islands returning to trade route (?before the) end of Nov. N.O.I.C. Simonstown is requested to sail ALCANTARA when ready for anchorage F., Reporting E.T.A. I will arrange visit. (R.A.S.A.D. 1303Z/10 to S.A.D.)

CAP PADARAN.
CAP TOURANE.

My 2000/6, CAP PADARAN, estimated time for repairs increased to one month. My 2318/6, CAP TOURANE, estimated time for repairs two to three months. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1417B/10 to Admty.)

SEMIEN.

There are indications Italian Ship SEMIEN now at Dakar may attempt to sail under Vichy flag or in French Convoy. (D.D.I.C. 1533A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

DEVONSHIRE ? sabotage.

(corrupt group) table was tampered with between 1200/9 and 0800/10. Screws and cover plates were removed and left on deck, 2 cover glasses on Hunters were removed and cannot be found, electric leads to 2 Hunters were left disconnected and it is possible that one Hunter was removed from its casing and afterwards replaced. Table has been examined internally as thoroughly as possible without stripping. No foreign matter has been discovered. Tests have subsequently been carried out with table running with satisfactory results. Missing parts have nuisance value only. (DEVONSHIRE 1619B/10 to Admty.)

/BRADFORD.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

BRADFORD CITY. Survivors from.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1626B/10, Consul-Gen. Loanda, 2345/10.)
See U-Boat Campaign.

ACADIA, BRILLIANT. My 1207N/8th. DUNEDIN not available. ACADIA sailed 1000N/10 escorted by BRILLIANT until 1800/11.
(C. in C. S.A., 1715N/10 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Zigzagging. Cancel previous instructions re zigzagging in South Atlantic Station and substitute as follows: All ships are to conform to C.A.M.S.I. number 487 except between longitudes 010° (?West) and 020° E. where zigzagging is to be continued to lat. 035° S.
(C. in C. S.A., 1759N/10 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

7 Italian Ships for Brazil. Brazilian Government have purchased from Italy following ships: PAMPANO, TERESA, LAURA LAURO, AUGUSTA, AUCTORITAS, AEQUITAS, LIBRATO. Will signal when transfer of flags takes place.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1922Z/10 to Admty.)
This leaves following ships in Brazil still belonging to Italy:-

AIDA LAURO	- 6,067	tons at	Pernambuco.
ANTONIO LIMONCELLI	- 4,574	" "	Maranham.
CONTE GRANDE	-23,861	" "	Santos.
LIANA	- 6,400	" "	Bahia.
TEBRO	- 4,310	" "	Santos.

(D.S., 798, 11/11.)

Uruguay and Axis Ships. The Axis ships taken over by the Uruguayan Govt. have been renamed as follows:-

Ex-Danish	LAURA	renamed	ROCHA.
"	CHR. SASS	renamed	COLONIA.
Italian	FAUSTO	"	MALDONADO.
"	ADA MELLO	"	MONTEVIDEO.

(D.S., 797, 10/11.)

ST. STEPHEN. Finnish Ship ST. STEPHEN proceeding Chile to Buenos Aires expected to arrive in fortnight to be sold, price 1100,000 dollars (sic).
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2006Z/10 to S.O.I. Montevideo.)

/Norwegian.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Norwegian Whalers.

Re charter of 23 of about 250 tons each for conversion to A/S and M/S craft. Names and conversion ports.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 2220A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)
See Lion Copy.

Air R/C.

For information in case of Press reports. R.A.F. F/B will be carrying out R/C of Islands in Gulf of Guinea on 12/11 and to seaward of coast of Angila as far as Lobito on and about 14/11. Request Air Ministry be informed.
(C. in C. S.A., 2137N/10 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

OIL SHIPPER (Panamanian)

Endeavours being made by U.S. Authorities to have this tanker requisitioned. Has been lying idle at Istanbul since April.
(D.S. 798, 11/11.)

Force H, R/V.

A/S Trawler will be in position 250° Cape San Dimitri 20 miles (? at) dawn 11/11.
(V.A. Malta, 1022B/10 to F.O. Force H., F.O.C.N.A., ARK ROYAL.)

UNIQUE, PERSEUS, REGENT.

UNIQUE leave patrol p.m./12 and make a short area report addressed to UPRIGHT when safe to do so and proceed through 032° 40' 018° 00', 034° 30' 015° 00', 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/16. PERSEUS leave 035° 51' 015° 15' about 1800B/11 direct for 032° 55' 019° 00' to arrive Benghazi 13/11. REGENT proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Grand Harbour 0730B/13.
(Capt. S.10, 1050B/10 to REGENT, UNIQUE.)

BARON RENFREW, ERICA.

Your 1915C/9 (not to Admty). Intend to sail BARON RENFREW for Port Said with ERICA.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1103C/10 to N.O.I.C.'s.)
Cancelled, see 1055C/11.

/THORN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

THORN. THORN sailed 1200B/10 and after carrying out exercises in Sanctuary proceeded from end of searched channel, through 035° 28' 026° 34' and 036° 12' 024° 42' thence area A as amended in my 1615B/7.
(Capt. S.1., 1121B/10 to C. in C. Med.)

Force K. Convoy Action 9/11. Your 0830A/9. Following is descriptive account from S.O. Force K:- Acting on information received from R.A.F. R/C, Force K sailed from Malta shortly before dark on evening of 8/11/1941. Course was set to N.E. at 28 knots so as to intercept an enemy convoy believed to be bound for Libyan coast. Bright moonlight and a light wind made conditions ideal for interception.
At 0040/9 when in a position 100 miles E.S.E. of Spartivento Cape, darkened ships were sighted 7 miles away on port bow, steering to Southward. Course was at once altered to Northward so as to work round to stern of convoy and silhouette the ships against moon now to Eastward. As the range slowly closed the convoy appeared to consist of at least 8 large M/Vs. escorted by 4 destroyers one of which was later identified as of Italian CLIMENE Class.
When a favourable position had been achieved, S.O. led round towards destroyers in the rear of the convoy now 5 miles distant. As convoy was approached, other darkened ships were sighted to N.W; these were identified as 2 more large M/Vs. escorted by 2 destroyers.
As Force was committed to attack the main convoy was closed until 0057. The range was now 5700 yards and fire was opened with forward turrets. The first salvo hit rear escorting destroyer. The action then became general. 2 of escorting destroyers were sunk in a few minutes. The merchant ships were then engaged and suffered severely. Large explosions and fires were caused, probably in part due to drums of oil which were seen stowed on upper deck.
A 10,000 ton petrol tanker was set on fire with a broadside; another broadside struck an ammunition ship which blew up. The force of explosion was so great that many damage control parties thought their ships had been torpedoed.
Torpedoes were in fact fired by both sides. The enemy probably fired 12 or more but scored no hits. Force K fired 4 of which 3 hit enemy M/Vs., one immediately sinking.
The other enemy destroyer escort took little part in action, firing only spasmodically and finally retiring under cover of smoke.

/At.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Force K. Convoy Action 9/11. Contd.

At completion of engagement 8 ships were seen to be blazing furiously, low in water and with no chance of salvage and 2 had already been sunk. After an hour of the homeward passage the officer of the after turret reported that ship's rear gunner could still see fires from a distance of 25 miles.
Final results of action, so far as they can be ascertained, were 2 destroyers and 10 M/Vs. of between 4 and 10,000 tons destroyed and 1 destroyer badly damaged.
There was no damage nor casualty in Force K.
(V.A. Malta, 1135B/10 to Admty.)
Your 1338/9. The announcement of names of ships and C.O's of Force K by Reuters and B.B.C. is not understood. So far as can be ascertained no leakage occurred from Middle East. Presume therefore leakage occurred in U.K. unless a sudden change of policy took place at Admiralty. In any case it is particularly unfortunate in view of precautions taken to conceal the facts here.
(C. in C. Med., 1502B/10 to Admty.)

Fortress Raid on Benghazi, 8/11.

Following are amplifying details Fortress operations 8/11. 2 Fortresses each carrying 8, 500 lb. bombs left Shallufa at 0726 and 0806 hours respectively following route direct to Maddalena and on to point 80 miles S.E. Benghazi at 27,000 feet, then out to sea with run into Benghazi from west. First Fortress did not return but second Fortress saw moisture trail at 25,000 feet about 15 miles S.S.E. Benghazi. Second Fortress dropped 4, 500 lb. bombs on Benghazi, results obscured by 5/10th cloud, no A/A or fighter opposition encountered, no shipping seen in harbour. This Fortress returned as arranged to landing ground between Sidi Barrani and Matruh to refuel. Missing Fortress was reported forced-landed about 70 miles west of Maddalena on 8/11 but subsequent search failed to locate it. Search of area by 2 Marylands on 9/11 and sweep by 22 fighters to destroy aircraft if located unsuccessful. Crew were located by air R/C on morning 10/11 just south of point 70 miles due west of Maddalena but Fortress was not seen aircraft dropped water and supplies for crew.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1244/10.)

/AGHIOS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 10.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

AGHIOS NICOLAOS. My 1540/17. Greek Auxiliary Sailing vessel AGHIOS NICOLAOS arrived from Piraeus with 170 tons of Chemicals.
(S.O.I. Istanbul, 1523B/10 to S.O.I. Med.)

Roumanian liner reported sunk. C.N.S. told me that Soviet Submarine which recently returned from patrol reported having sunk one of two large Roumanian liners believed to be KING CAROL and KING FERDILAND whilst they were Northbound off Bulgarian Coast.
(Adm. Miles, 1604D/10 to Admty.)

Enemy Convoy, UNIQUE. Small convoy may be expected from Westward arriving shortly after daylight 11th.
(Capt. S.10, 1735B/10 to UNIQUE.)

Malta Raids. 6 Alarms night 9/10. Total 25 aircraft approached, 7 crossed coast. Bombs land, sea. 3 civilians killed, slight damage houses. 4 bombers illuminated, 2 probable BR.20's engaged by Hurricanes, 1 damaged and another so badly damaged probably did not return. Debris from one aircraft hit Hurricane throwing it out of control but aircraft landed.
Day 10/11. 0900 hours 2 enemy aircraft crossed island great height, no interceptions.
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1820/10.)

Augusta bombed. Night 9/10. 5 F.A.A. aircraft attacked Augusta. Two returned engine trouble. Hits near Nasta tank, small fire. Other bombs north end submarine bases fire visible 10 miles.

Messina bombed. Wellington programme ruined bad weather. 2 Wellingtons despatched attack Brindisi diverted to Messina. Power station straddled causing large explosion. Other bombs near railway station, Citadel, centre of town and harbour.

Naples bombed. 3 Wellingtons nuisance raid Naples 2007 to 0225 hours. Bombs dropped town and dock areas.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1831/10, 1843/10.)

Destroyer sunk by UPHOLDER. UPHOLDER was in the area of force K's action during 9th and reports at 1901/9 having sunk one destroyer and damaged another. UPHOLDER now returning to Malta all torpedoes expended.
(C. in C. Med., 1910B/10 to Admty.)

/Augusta.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Augusta bombed.

M.C.I.R. 9/11.
(i) R/C Palermo and Syracuse, no warships seen.
(ii) Offensive night 9/10. Albacores bombed Augusta. Wellingtons nuisance raid Naples, Messina.
(V.A. Malta, 1920B/10 to S.O. Force H.)

Destroyers, dispositions, A/S Forces.

Your 1810/30 and 1021/31.
A. The two destroyers from Mediterranean for Eastern Fleet, one of which may be KELVIN, to arrive Trincomalee by 1/12, are essential, vide Admty. 0155A/29/10.
B. NORMAN and NESTOR should be ready to leave U.K. with W.S.14 on 1/12. Do you wish them to be passed through the Western Mediterranean and await your further orders at Malta or to proceed round the Cape?
C. Two TRIBALS will be kept available for you to be passed through Mediterranean when you consider that that passage can be made from Malta to Eastward. Request 10 days warning of this possibility.
D. Not intended that the two Ls. now in Force 'K' at Malta should join Mediterranean destroyer force. They will be required to rejoin their flotilla at Gibraltar.
E. DULVERSTON and SOUTHWOLD leave with W.S.12Z on 12/11. HURWORTH as in A.T. 2245/10 and BEAUFORT with W.S.14 on 1/12. They must accompany their convoys as far as Freetown. Do you wish them then to be passed through to Malta or to proceed round the Cape?
F. As regards A/S Forces, SNAPDRAGON has joined you. 2nd Trawler Group should join you during December.
(1st S.L., 2338A/10 to C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

STREEFKERK RAHMANI
BENALDER.

Your 1907/7 and 1743/8 STREEFKERK RAHMANI arrived Bombay 31st. Inquiries re BENALDER being made. (S.O.I.Colombo 0326Z/10 to Admty.).
Your 1907/7. (1) BENALDER 7 Port Okha 8/11 for Singapore.
(2). This was not previously reported to me.
(3). As Port Okha is a minor port S.O.(I) Bombay is being requested to make arrangements for reporting ships there.
(S.O.I.Colombo 1040Z/10 to Admty.).

CLELIA CAMPANELLA (Italian).

My 0901/6. CLELIA CAMPANELLA has been shifted today. 300 feet extra quay space now available Massawa for ships drawing up to 20 feet.
(N.O.I.C. Massawa 0603Z/10 to S.N.O.Red Sea.).

Wrecks

List of ships lying sunk Red Sea and adjacent N.E. African Coast. (Head of S. 1215A/10 to B.A.D. See America and West Indies).

French M/Vs Intelligence.

Your 1631/6 para. 4. (1) Most of my intelligence regarding movements of French merchant ships is obtained by Mauritius radio interception service (all messages intercepted are also passed to Blanketing from Chesor, Mauritius). Chesor, at present in Colombo, reports his information is definitely limited by (a) lack of equipment for intercepting high speed wireless traffic (b) delays due to press censorship of traffic (c) Lack of necessary decyphering tables for French marine cyphered messages. Regarding (a) Chesor is endeavouring to obtain necessary gear in India or South Africa. He has referred the matter to Governor, Mauritius, regarding additional expenditure and I trust financial considerations will not cause any delay. It may be possible to eliminate (b). Messages referred to in (c) are probably those giving exact dates for convoys or single ships arriving or departing and is thus the very information required. I therefore consider it most desirable for Chesor, Mauritius, to be provided with requisite decyphering tables.
(C.in C. E.I. 1750Z/10 to Admty.).

/M.L's.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. -Contd.

M.L's. Addu Atoll. — My 1145A/4 and 1147A/17. 110th Flotilla 72Ft. H.D. M/L's awaiting shipment. Request early reply as to Ports to which you wish boats should be shipped. 2. My 1832/23. Has L.D. 002487/41 of 21.8.41. containing plans of defences of ports been received?. (D.of L.D. 2008A/10 to C.in C. E.I.).

China.

PRINCE ROBERT. — N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1946/6 (1935/6 intended). Arrange accordingly. (C.in C. China 0417Z/10 to N.O.I.C.Hong Kong).

America and West Indies.

Wabana Convoys continuance. — Owing to (a). Absence of A/S protection at Wabana anchorage and increases risk of U/B attack in that area. (b) Liability of Wabana Convoy to fail to make R/V with H.X. or S.C. convoy on account of heavy weather or a prior change of route by the latter. (c) Unsuitabibilty of St. Johns N.F. as convoy assembly port, C.C.N.F. has suggested that the sailing of ships in Convoy from Wabana should be discontinued and that ships should proceed independently to Halifax or Sydney (C.B.) to join Convoy.
(2) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa concurs, but considers that decision whether ships loading in Newfoundland should be sailed to join a passing convoy or proceed to assembly port should be made by C.C.N.F. in order to save shipping time.
(3) Admiralty consider this procedure would be advisable in certain circumstances and concur with N.S.H.Q. Ottawa that decision should depend on circumstances.
(4) Request you will discuss question with Opnav and request him to make arrangements in consultation with N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 0158A/10 to B.A.D.).
Your 0158/10 to B.A.D. Opnav approves and that decisions be made by C.C.N.F. By this despatch

N.S.H.Q.

/N.S.H.Q.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Wabana Convoys continuance. -Contd.	N.S.H.Q. requested to issue necessary directives. (Opnav 2107/10 to Admty.).
JEANNE D'ARC. (French Cruiser).	Following from Master PLOW CITY, MONT VISO left Guadaloupe p.m./5 for Martinique and Casablanca. Carried 50 to 60 seamen ex JEANNE D'ARC returning to France. Latter ship now apparently skeleton crew. (A.1.). (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 09550/10 to S.O.(I) Kingston J).
P.511 P.551.	Your 1401R/9 (sailing of P.511 and P.551) concur. B.A.D. pass to B.N.L.O. Portsmouth. (C.in C. A.W.I. 10030/10 to B.A.D.). C.in C. A.W.I. 10420/9. Submarines should proceed on the surface at C.O's discretion until reaching 25° W and thence submerged by day. (F.O.S. 1639A/10 to C.C.N.F.).
U.S.Pacific Fleet Liaison.	My 1813/17/10. Navy Dept. agree. Lt. Cdr. Martell is being withdrawn from Pacific Fleet and sent to England by first opportunity. Request Cdr, Parry may now be appointed as observer. (B.A.D. 1125R/10 to Admty.).
Wrecks Red Sea.	Your 1917R/21/10. List of ships now lying sunk Red Sea and on adjacent N.E. African Coast, and salvage gear available. (Head of S. 1215A/10 to B.A.D.) See Lion Copy.
St. John's N.F.	Report from Seal on negotiations for south side wharf for Naval base. (B.A.D. 1405R/10 to Admty.). See Lion Copy.
LETITIA.	D.of S.T. 2039/6. Please confirm LETITIA cannot be expected Halifax before 10/12 in view of urgent requirements. Also confirm ship will be fully loaded with stores and ready in all respects to embark personnel. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1551Z/10 to New York for Midship).

/LOCHMONAR.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

LOCHMONAR fire defects.	LOCHMONAR returned to Balbao 0900/10 with fire in No. 3 Orlop deck (?hold) previously reported smothered by steam. Will report result of investigation as to probable cause and extent of damage with probable delay as early as possible. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa please pass to C.S.A. New York. (N.C.S.O. Panama 1641/10 to S.O.I. Jamaica).
Dakar Casablanca intelligence.	Dakar 8/11 A.1. FORT ARCHAMBAULT, CONDE, CAPITAINE LE DIABAT and MONTAIGNE have arrived from Casablanca. SAINT CYRILLE has been towed to Port Etienne and her cargo is being shifted to OUED FES. ARIZONA has left for southward. Casablanca 8/11, A.1. Tanker LORRAINE has departed for an unknown destination. (B.A.D. 1707R/10 to S.O.I.Freetown).
O.N.34.	Escort Unit 4.1.3 designated escort. Composition BENSON, PAREN, (Senior Officer PAREN) NIBLACK H.P.JONES, TARBELL, EDISON, CHICOUTIMI. (Opnav 1904/10 to Admty.).
CONCORD RICHMOND TRENTON.	My 2120/21. S.E. Pacific Force. Programmes and routes. (Opnav, 2053/10 to Admty.etc.). See Lion Copy.
SANTA PRINCESSA.	Your 1234/1. Portuguese beam trawler SANTA PRINCESSA now here was trawling in 4424 N, 4936 W on 21/10 and sighted two steamers that day. (C.C.N.F. 2114Z/10 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
CONTE BIANCANANO (Italian).	Press reports that U.S. Govt. has asked District Court at Balboa, Canal zone, to declare fortified on account of her sabotage action on 31/3/41. (D.S. 798 11/11).

Australia.

AQUITANIA.	D. of S.T.'s 0311A/7. Request AQUITANIA be sailed for Wellington to arrive not later than 16/12. (A.C.N.B., 0457Z/10 to R.A. Malaya.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BRADFORD CITY. (torpedoed ?1/11.)

Survivors report one further boat containing 22 men still missing. Search is continuing. No details of survivors yet available. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1626B/10 to C. in C.S.A.) Governor General informed me following message received from Mossa (begins). Boat with Captain, First Mate, and 20 men BRADFORD CITY torpedoed 0545/1/11 23° 00' S., 9° 43' E., landed 1500/10, Bahiados Tigres after rowing 10 days. Lost contact with 2nd boat containing 24 men 2200/1. (Ends.) Governor General is making arrangements to have men brought to Mossa and is ordering all ships to keep lookout for 2nd boat. I hope to have Portuguese mail steamer call Mossa to convey men to Capetown. (Consul-General, Loanda, 2345/10, to Admty.)

S.S.LARPOOL Sunk 1/11.

Masters name Patton with first mate and 4 crew of S.S. LARPOOL from London to Barbados general cargo landed from lifeboat near Burin in Placentia Bay 8/11. Report ship torpedoed and sunk 1/11 about 200 miles E.S.E.Cape Race. 2 other lifeboats with 16 and 21 men still missing when last seen were ordered to steer westerly for Newfoundland. Have probably (?passed) to southward. Request air R/C. (C.C.N.F. 1904Z/10 to Comdr. Task Force 4.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1343A/10, 1344A/10.)

Diary 11-11-41 — 17-11-41

inclusive

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch for enemy units.

KENT left Hvalfiord this evening to carry out a patrol to westward of the Northern Patrol trawler lines covering the Iceland Faroes passage. BERWICK was ordered to return to Hvalfiord at 0148 today.
At 0144 today C. in C. H.F. ordered RODNEY to proceed to Hvalfiord.
Air patrols of the coastal area of Norway from Stavanger to Kristiansand were ordered to be flown continuously p.m. today and tonight.

M.G.B. engagement.

4 M.G.B.'s had a brief inconclusive engagement with an unknown enemy force, believed to have been composed of trawlers, at 2257, but were unable to keep touch. Fanhole South Foreland 6-inch Battery also opened fire at about 21,000 yards range, firing by R.D.F., but without effect.

Weather.

At 1207A today V.A.2 reported to C. in C. H.F. that the weather was unsuitable for destroyers to leave Scapa except in extreme urgency. Communication and refuelling are impossible. A full south-easterly gale is blowing. ESCAPADE was damaged during passage to Scapa from Rosyth yesterday.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather restricted operations today and tonight.

Enemy Air Operations.

VERSATILE escorting F.N.49 called for help at 1728 in 52° 19' N. 1° 59' E. No further signal has been received.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Bristol Channel.

Normal conditions were resumed at all Bristol Channel ports a.m. today except Walton Bay where the anchorage remains closed.

Mediterranean.

Two Wellingtons last night carried out nuisance raids on Naples and two on Brindisi.

Libya and Western Desert.

8 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.
6 Marylands despatched to attack targets at Benghazi today were forced to return by fighter opposition.

Enemy aircraft operated over Tobruk last night and today and over Mersa Matruh today, but no naval damage was caused.

China.

It is stated that rubber is concealed by the Indo-China authorities in French sick repatriation ships.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S.CASTILLO OROPESA sunk.

The Spanish S.S. CASTILLO OROPESA is reported to have been torpedoed and sunk at 0700/8 whilst lying off Melilla inside territorial waters. The S/M which sank her was not British.

U-boat attacked by A/C.

A Hudson on A/S patrol south of Ireland attacked a U-boat 240 miles west of Ushant, the hull being awash at the time, and reports 2 hits with D.Cs which exploded astern of the conning tower. A third D.C. exploded ahead of the conning tower 5 ft. from the hull. Large air bubbles occurred, and an under water explosion 300 yards from the point of attack along the track of the U-boat.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

CARDAK
SILIVRI
AL GARNIA
for Turkey.

Request your remarks on feasibility of sailing two ferry steamers CARDAK and SILIVRI and crane lighters AL GARNIA speed 6 to 7 knots endurance 3000 miles from U.K. to Azores for delivery to Turkey via the Cape. Ships should be ready to leave Clyde about 15/11 and would require escort to the Azores. (D.T.D. 0051A/11 to C. in C. W.A.) Admiralty 0051A/11. Request your opinion of seaworthiness and best sea keeping speed of these vessels. (C. in C. W.A. 1215A/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

EMPIRE
ORIOLE.
PEREGRINE.
PINTAIL.

Your 1839/8. White Ensign should be worn throughout in conformity with instructions given in A.L. M.050012/41 of 17th October 1941. (Head of M. 1032A/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

P.36.

On completion of second working up patrol in U.K. intend P.36 should join 10th Flotilla leaving Portsmouth about 19/12. (F.O.S. 1208A/11) P.36 is to be sailed about 21/11 for 2 days A/S practices at Dartmouth then to patrol in Biscay North Zone returning to Portsmouth about 5/12. She is then to be prepared for service in the Mediterranean and is to be sailed to join 10th Flotilla about 19/12. (F.O.S. 1209A/11).

Co-operation with Russia.

K.22.
TUNA.

Your 1249/30 October. Request you will arrange for submarine K.22 to be withdrawn from patrol in Vestfiord and approaches by 2359/15, as it is desired to operate TUNA in this area between about 17th and 26th November. Withdrawal of K.22 should be confirmed. (A.C.N.S. H. 1545A/11 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Archangel.
Economia.
Molotovsk.

Forecast of winter shipping capacities. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1550/11, 2344C/11) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

CILICIA. S.O.W.P. 1230A/10. When ready for sea CILICIA should be sailed for Clyde. (D.O.D. H. 0030A/11 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

NORFOLK. If destroyer fuel situation permits, NORFOLK is to leave convoy and return Scapa. (C. in C. H.F. 0131/11)

RODNEY. Proceed Hvalfiord. (C. in C. H.F. 0144/11 to RODNEY).

BERWICK. Cancel my 2252Z/10. BERWICK return to Hvalfiord. (C. in C. H.F. 0148/11 to BERWICK)

BROADWAY. My position 053° 30' N. 045° 40' W. (BROADWAY 0630Z/11).

SUNFISH. Cancel my 1520A/10. Sailing of SUNFISH is postponed until weather improves. (C. in C. Nore 0950A/11 to BLENCATHRA and F.O. (S) 1021A/11)

UNA. (1) Intend to sail CUTTY SARK at 1600A/12 to R/V with UNA in 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 0800A/14 and escort her to Holy Loch. E.T.A. Holy Loch 0860A/16.
(2) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation as follows.
(Capt. S.3. 1013A/11).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Intend sailing ROYAL SOVEREIGN escorted by FURY FORESTER, and FORESIGHT to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1632A/8 passing Clyde boom 1330A/12. E.T.A. 0830A/13. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1108A/11)

/TUNA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

TUNA. My 04318/36 of 10/11/41 now in transit is to be amended as follows.
(a) Add to para. 5. When making a landfall the risk of detection by R.D.F. by closing land on surface can however be accepted. Subsequently TUNA is not to approach on surface within 10 miles of any suspected R.D.F. station.
(b) Cancel para. 7 and substitute.
If a R.D.F. station is discovered within 20 miles of place referred to in para. 2 D. TUNA is not to penetrate to Eastwards of Fleinvaer either on surface or submerged even to achieve object given in para. 2 (d) and 2 (c) last 3 lights (sic). (F.O.S. 1229A/11).

CAIRO. C. in C. W.A. 1048A/11. CAIRO is to return to Milford Haven on completion of B.B. 98. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1307/11 to CAIRO).

TRIDENT. Your 18090/9. Onward route. To R/V in 090° Bressay 5[illegible] miles at 0845A/23 with an escort to be arranged by S.9. for onward passage to Blyth. (F.O.S. 1309A/11 to B.S.N.O. North Russia)

BELMONT. My position at 1200A/11, 057° 45' N. 008° 45' W. Have 24% fuel remaining, a portion of which is contaminated by water. Am proceeding independently economical speed. E.T.A. Greenock 0800/12. (BELMONT 1331A/11).

CITY OF DURBAN. Your 1155/10. The following programme is approved. 0800/17. Undock.
A.M./20. Ready to sail as ordered by C. in C.
(C. in C. Nore 1746A/11 to F.O.I.C. London).

O.9.
H.33. Sailed Z.5. with O.9. and H.33. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1801A/11).

SEALION. SEALION sails for patrol Svaerholthavet p.m./12th. Route 72° 12' N. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 22070/11).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit.

(KENYA) My P.C.S. are 061° 42' N. 009° 45' W. 303° 11 knots. E.T.A. Seidisfjord 1200Z/12. (C.S.10. 1100Z/11 to A.C.I.C.)
Weather unsuitable for Destroyers to leave Scapa except in extreme emergency. (V.A. 2. 1207A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)
E.T.A. Hvalfiord 0300 tomorrow, ONSLOW, IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE in company. All times zone plus one. (RODNEY 1550N/11 to A.C.I.C.)
My 1228Z/10. Proceed to patrol on completion of practice tonight. Object is to shadow enemy surface vessels should they try to break out into Atlantic.
(ii) CUMBERLAND arrives Hvalfiord from Scapa at 1500A/12. (C. in C. H.F. 1827Z/11 to KENT)

Serial 10.
Serial 11.

My 0953/11 and my 1537/10. Serial 10 is to take place at 1430 and serial 11 at 1530 today. ATHERSTONE is cancelled from both serials. KUJAWIAK is to act as safety ship for both serials. (C. in C. Plymouth 1253/11)
My 1253/11. Convoys will be in Area C. at 1430. Keep clear. Serial 11 is to be carried out in area A. (C. in C. Plymouth 1442/11 to KUJAWIAK).

M.G.B. Patrol.

Intend sailing M.G.B. 319 to the Southward at 1500 today, returning Dartmouth dawn/12th. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1321/11).

East Coast Patrols.

Patrols tonight. (1) 2 M.G.B's Q.E.4.A. shifting to Q.E.3 at 0030/12 (2) 3 M.L's Q.E.6.A, shifting to Q.E.4.A. at 0030/12. (C. in C. Nore 1615A/11).

British Air Activity.

R.A.F. Personnel for U.K.

Your 1423Z/10. A.C.I.C. is requested to pass contents to BEDOUIN at Seidis Fiord. (C.S.10 1101Z/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

Patrols.

Fleet R/C is required as follows:-
(A) "Stand" to be kept continuously covered p.m./11 and tonight, 11th/12th.
(B) "Sentry 2", "Sentry 3" and "Sentry one" in that order of priority from 1200A/12.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1309A/11)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.46. VICTO (Norwegian, 3655 Tons) sunk on 8/11.	F.O.I.C. Tyne reports VICTO sunk at 2330/8 by enemy aircraft in position 1.8 miles 330° from 18.B buoy. 3 Bombs dropped in low level -attack. Fire opened by ship before attack. Survivors landed at Tyne, 14 by steamship SKIPJACK, 16 by steamship LOTTINGE of whom 5 injured. 2 killed. (C. in C. Rosyth 1237/11).
Convoy F.N. 49.	Help "Radio" 52° 19' N. 1° 59' E. (VERSATILE 1728)
Convoy F.N. 48. A/C shot down on 10/11.	QUANTOCK's 1725/10. (1) 18 D. buoy 1725/10. At 1725/10 near 18 D. buoy shot down a Dornier 215. Pom-pom bursts seen around plane which turned immediately when flying at 300 feet range 1000 yards, tried to climb steeply, burst into flames, and is thought to have crashed on shore. No damage or casualties. (C. in C. Rosyth 1800/11).

Mining.

Cork Minefield.	My 1715/23/9 Cork Observation minefield now operative. Minelayer has arrived Dublin for drydocking. No further operations can be undertaken this year. Grading A.1. (N.A. Dublin 1110/11)
PORT QUEBEC.	My 0946/7 postponed. (R.A.M. 1129/11 and 1131/11). My 0946/7 and C. in C. W.A. 1449/8. PORT QUEBEC delayed 24 hours. Request you amend fighter protection as necessary. (R.A.M. 2201A/11).
Plymouth	One presumed accoustic mine exploded at 1820/10 in approx: 250° Breakwater Fort 2000 yards. (C. in C. Plymouth 1217/11).
4th M/S Flotilla.	My 1645A/9. In view of weather conditions obtaining it is most unlikely sweeping operations could recommence before 13/11. Intend therefore sailing FITZROY and PANGBOURNE as soon as weather permits, and ELGIN as soon as ALBURY rejoins, to Aberdeen for boiler cleaning. In my absence KELLETT will assume responsibility as S.O. and be available with SELKIRK, SUTTON, and ELGIN or ALBURY to carry out requirements outlinedin my 1645/9 should they arise. (S.O. 4th M/S F. 1502A/11 to A.C.O.S.).

/N.P.7.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

N.P.7. Two M.Ls. leave Dover at 2000 on an easterly course to operate in vicinity of W. buoy returning at about 0045/12. (V.A. Dover 1615A/11)
My 1052A/7. Intend to carry out operation N.P.7. tonight. (V.A. Dover 1616A/11).
My 1616A. Postponed on account of weather. (V.A. Dover 2254A/11).

Navigational.

Jan Mayen. Request report of ice conditions in the vicinity of Jan Mayen Island. (A.C.N.S. H. 2200A/11 to NORFOLK).

Casualties and Defects.

ANGLE (Broke down 8/11) Joined company with ANGLE at 0812A/11. Towing should be established by 1030. (ST. APOLLO 0920A/11).
As soon as Tug arrives one Corvette is to return to base. (C. in C. W.A. 1046A/11 to RENONCULE).
Your 1520/11. If weather conditions permit ANGLE should be towed to Greenock.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1913/11 to FREEBOOTER).

Methil Docks damaged by ISAFOLD. Block ship ISAFOLD which broke adrift in Fairway of Docks last night has damaged Dolphins on jetty. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1029/11).

NESTOR. A.M. 1659A/9. Date of completion of refit is about 28/11. This date will certainly not be improved upon. (C. in C. Plymouth 1153/11)

KUJAWIAK. My 1033/11. KUJAWIAK delayed by defect. (C. in C. Plymouth 1055/11).

SKUM (Norwegian, 1304 Tons). Departure Tug KENIA to assist S.S. SKUM into Harbour. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1743A/11).
My 1729/11. Tug KENIA and SKUM arrived. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1855A/11).

/CASTLETON....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

CASTLETON. Has one dynamo out of action. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1846A/11).

SAINTFIELD. GLENGARRIFF. Arrivals. SAINTFIELD and GLENGARRIFF have been in collision. (V.A. Dover 2247A/11).

Shipping and Convoys.

C.T.6. LLANGIBBY CASTLE. TAMAROA. CAIRO. My 0606/8. LLANGIBBY CASTLE will now embark 14/11 and sail p.m. 14/11. TAMAROA must complete embarkation by noon 13/11 so as to be able to sail p.m. 13/11. (D.S.T. 0217A/11). CAIRO is to provide A/A escort for Avonmouth portion of convoy C.T.6 to R/V off Oversay. (C. in C. W.A. 1048A/11).

H.X. 157. P.C.S. 060° 18' N. 17° 14' W., 135°, 12. (DOUGLAS 0800Z/11).

P.Q.4. Your 1041Z/10. ECHO and ESCAPADE were the destroyers intended. Weather condition at Scapa still prevents all communication and refuelling. Destroyers are 30% short of fuel and ECHO has not been supplied with winter clothing. ESCAPADE sustained damage during passage from Rosyth yesterday. The only other destroyer is NORMAN. Request consideration be given detailing escort from 17th D.F., one destroyer being relieved by ECHO as soon as possible. (R.A.D. H.F. 0950/11 and 1200A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 0950/11. Intend ONSLOW and OFFA should escort P.Q.4. Request you will sail ECHO for Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F. 1547Z/11 to R.A.D.)

Iceland Sections of Atlantic Convoys. To distinguish between Iceland sections which -leave and join Atlantic Convoys it is proposed that the present suffix I (letter) be abolished and the following adopted.
Suffix L for ships leaving a convoy for Iceland.
Suffix J for ships joining a convoy from Iceland. (D.T.D. 1216Z/11 to Opnav).

/F.N.47.....

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

F.N. 47. Firth of Forth. Further signal will be made, as overdue ships are probably sheltering in Aberlady Bay owing to stress of weather. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1220/11).

O.S.11. Inform Commodore that ships for South Atlantic are not to be detached pending further instructions. (C. in C. W.A. 1222/11 to IBIS).

O.N.S. 33. Escorted O.N.S. 33 to 056° N. 026° W. at 0900Z/11. ST. LAURENT, SNOWBERRY and (Corrupt Group) in company. Remainder of Iceland Escort in R/T touch but not joined at that time.
My P.C.S. are 056° 27' N. 026° 05' W. 352°, 9 knots. NARCISSUS, NORWICH CITY, LADY MADELEINE, and COMMANDANT DETROYAT in company.
(HEATHER 1300A/11).

C.T.7. It is proposed that Convoy C.T.7 consisting of PASTEUR carrying service personnel to Halifax should be:-
(a) Sailed with escort from U.K. on 22/11.
(b) Met by an escort provided by U.S. at MOMP.
2. It is requested that you will obtain confirmation that these arrangements are suitable to Opnav. (A.C.N.S. H. 1301A/11 to B.A.D. Washington.)

S.C.51. Warmest congratulations on bringing home successfully another Convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1310A/11 to Commodore).

D.S.16. Admiralty 1841A/7. Delete S.S. LEINSTER. (D.O.D. H. 1517A/11)

CASTLETON has one dynamo out of action. Intend sailing her with D.S. 16 in present condition. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1846A/11).

/W.N. 3.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

W.N.3. 16 ships now sheltering Thurso Bay. BOLBEC and MARIANNE sheltering Scapa. VALETA reports following ships not seen since night 9th-10th November between Cape Wrath and Strathie Point. SABOR, POLYKTOR, EMPIRE CLIFF, NESTUN. Convoy will be sailed as soon as weather moderates (A.C.O.S. 1556/11). Propose asking Vice Commodore of convoy to sail 1030 tomorrow if weather suitable in Pentland Firth. (VALETA 1835A/11).

Trawler Escorts. A.M. 1532A/10. If VALETA and COTILLION which are now at Methil are sailed with E.N. 6. Trawler escorts can be provided either for W.N. convoys sailing to fit in with remainder of proposed programme or they can be sailed direct to Methil if W.N. convoys cannot be arranged. It will however be necessary to employ every available trawler to operate this schedule and no reliefs can be provided, in the event of damage or breakdown. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1810A/11 to N.C.S.O. Oban).

P.Q. Convoys. Your 1340/4. Your remarks regarding stowage and securing carefully noted and instructions issued here in endeavour to prevent recurrence of damage.
(2) Steps being taken to make heating adequate and to overcome condensation.
(3) Fire extinguishers being sent in P.Q.6.
(4) Please signal arrivals and sailings of P.Q. Convoys. (D.S.T. 2034A/11 to S.T.O. Archangel.)
Expected dates of arrival at Archangel and probable conditions as to unloading.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 2344C/11) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

AUDACITY. Intend to arrive at Europa Point 1745A with VIDETTE and COWSLIP in company. PENSTEMON instructed to proceed in accordance with your 1916A/9.* My 1425/10.* Berth with crane not required as I have no spare aircraft to land. (AUDACITY, 0900Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.) * W.R. Note- No trace in War Reg. of either message.

French Shipping. Passings 10/11. Eastward LIEUT. DE LA TOUR, MAROC, CAPITAINE LUIGI, JOSEPH ELISE, SCHIAFFINO FRERES, all full. (V.A.C.N.A., 0917A/11 to Admty for M.E.W.)
Escorts Armed trawler L' AJACCIENNE (D.O.R., 12/11) Armed trawler LA TOULONNAISE escorting THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, KITA, and KERMARIA, all laden, passed Gibraltar eastbound 1813/11 (D.O.R., 12/11).

Operation "Perpetual". If weather unsuitable tomorrow intend returning to Gibraltar. Consider remaining in this area without fighters and aircraft A/S patrols undesirable.
For 200 Group, amend zero hour to read 0745. (S.O. Force H., 1341A/11 to Admty).

EUGENIO C. (Italian) Arrived Castro Urdiales 10/11 to load iron ore, expect to complete loading 12/11. (Consul, Bilbao, 1750/11 to Admty).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1140, Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE, S.S. THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, KITA, KERMARIA all laden, eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1813A/11 to Admty etc).

CASTILLO OROPESA. Spanish, torpedoed. (N.A. Madrid, 1843/11) See U-boat Campaign.

W/T Reports from M/Vs. Your 1218A/23/10 (N.T. in W.D.). As it is important to keep these reports as brief as possible and as the speed made good can be calculated from the time of departure and the position as reported it is not intended to adopt this suggestion. Your 1154A/26/10 para.
2. As this might lead to a relaxation of the control over W/T signals made by merchant ships

/it is.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

W/T Reports from M/Vs. Contd. — it is not considered desirable to amend existing instructions on these lines. No objection to an individual ship being ordered to break W/T silence to indicate her position either to a shore station or to a local escort sent out to meet her. Para. 3. Routeing authorities have been instructed to report if ships are fitted with H.F. transmitters.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 2349A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

DEVONSHIRE. — Durban departure DEVONSHIRE 2300Z/10, E.T.A. Simonstown, 1600Z/12. S. of A. 25 knots. Route R.2. (N.L.O. Durban, 0330Z/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

REPULSE, publicity. — Your 1617B/7 (N.T. in W.D.) Text of speech may be released now provided consent of Prime Minister is obtained and date of speech omitted. Ship should be referred to as "a large warship", name is not to be released. Photographs must not identify REPULSE. (D.T.D., Approved by 1st Lord, 0756A/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

CINCINNATI. — A.M. 1657/5. CINCINNATI now arrives Pernambuco 11/11. (D.O.D. (F), 0909A/11 to C. in C. SA., R.A.S.A.D.)

DERBYSHIRE. — Naval Supt. H.M.S.A. Dockyard Simonstown 1501/8. Ship is at 48 hour's notice and will be ready for sea P.M./22.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1137B/11)

/Gold.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Gold Coast shipping.

To reduce risks to shipping on Gold Coast request M.W.T. be asked if possible to use smaller and less valuable ships for supplies to Accra and for lifting cocoa crop. S.S. SHIRRABANK, 7260 tons, 12 knots, is now there unloading cargo which will take about seven days and has then to load 3800 tons of cocoa taking 14 to 12 days. I have prohibited ships lying off Accra at night as I consider they are safer at sea, and I cannot yet provide adequate patrols. This has brought forth a string of protests.
2. Alternative and additional measure would be to use small coasters as feeders for carrying cargoes from Gold Coast to Lagos for transhipment into ocean vessels. (C. in C. S.A., 1311N/11 to Admty etc).

Force G.

Re. A.T. 1945A/9. Force G will not call Walvis Bay and will arrive Capetown 1000/16. Request you will arrange air passage to Pretoria for self, secretary, and valet, early /17 and ascertain that visit will be convenient to Prime Minister.
Intend to sail for (?word omitted) p.m./18 if possible. (S.O. Force G., 1521Z/11 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

OLWEN (Q Report).

My 1915A/4 and 1231A/6. No fresh information. (D.D.I.C., 1616A/11 to Cs. in C. etc).

Mediterranean.

Mine Malta.

Mine recovered at Malta on 9/11 is apparently a 6-horn German antennae mine. (Details)
Request if this mine is of known type and if detailed particulars, photograph and sketch should be forwarded.
(V.A. Malta, 0005B/11 to Admty).

/Your.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Mine, Malta. Contd.	Your 0005B/11. Description corresponds to Type V as described in A.L. T.O. 7487/40 dated 16/11 1940 para. 17, but fitted to the large Type Y mine. Antenna floats have hitherto been bakelite with copper projections. Mine is known here but any details of materials used to connect and to insulate the top antenna at float and mine ends are desired. (D.T.M., 2134A/11 to V.A. Malta)
JUPITER defects.	Request information as to cause of leaks in hull of JUPITER, observing that she was refitted in U.K. in May 1941 and hull was strengthened. (1st S.L., 0101A/11, to C. in C. Med).
PERSEUS, UNIQUE.	PERSEUS delayed about 24 hours. Remain on patrol until P.M./13 then proceed as in my 1050B/10 to arrive Malta A.M./17. -(Capt. S.10, 0931B/11 to UNIQUE).
BARON RENFREW, ARENA, KIRKLAND.	Cancel my 1103C/10. Now intend to sail BARON RENFREW to Port Said, ARENA for Alexandria KIRKLAND 9½ knots to Alexandria for onward passage to Mersa Matruh. All escorted by ERICA and NIKI. E.T.D. Haifa, 1600/12. Request approval. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1055C/11 to N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports).
Enemy M/Vs.	R/C suggests following enemy movements. One merchant ship may arrive Benghazi from Northward dawn/12. Two merchant ships may pass South east through Cephalonian patrol same day. (Capt. S.10., 1221B/11 to S/Ms on Patrol)
PORPOISE, PERSEUS, REGENT.	PORPOISE, leaves 035° 51'., 015° 15' about 2100B/12 through 035° 00', 017° 00', to arrive 034° 00' 025° 00' about 0630B/16 thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 1. PERSEUS probably leaving first position 2000B/12 direct for 032° 55' 019° 00' to arrive Benghazi P.M./14. Any S/Ms. encountered night 12/13 by REGENT are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1247B/11 to REGENT)

/Suez.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid Night 8-9/11. Ref. my 1301B/9, para E. Canal Company slip destroyed by D/A bomb. Para F., 1 aircraft engaged at 8,000 yards range by CARLISLE about 20 miles E. of Ras-el-Gharib and driven off by gunfire. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1307B/11 to Admty).

Air Operations. Night 9/10, Nov. total 41 Wellingtons operated. 19 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi dropping bombs on base of Central Mole. Many fires and explosions caused, particularly violent explosion by a 4,000 lb. bomb. 12 Wellingtons dropped bombs on stores dump at Berka, causing very violent explosions which were seen 60 miles away. 5 Wellingtons dropped bombs on stores dumps at Bardia causing explosions and large fire visible for 40 miles. 5 F.A.A. Albacores bombed dispersed M.T. stores and encampments at Gazala North and South landing grounds.
R/Cs. of shipping routes from southern Greece and Crete to Libya sighted no shipping movements but saw two Ju. 52's each towing one Glider about 25 miles N.E. of Derna Flying south Egypt. Night 9/10, two enemy bombers operated over the Gulf of Suez. No reports of attacks on shipping. 5 Hurricanes patrolling over Suez Canal zone did not sight enemy.
-(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1312/11, 1331/11, 1533/11).

ELISABETH HENDRIK FISSER. (German). Departure 10/11 probably for Genoa with some 6,000 tons iron ore and 2335 Aniseed. (Valencia, 1355/11 to M. of W.T.)

PANDORA. To join 1st S/M Flotilla. (D.O.D. (F), 1755A/11) See America & West Indies.

New "Hunt" Destroyers. The following new "Hunts" are allocated to Mediterranean after working up at Scapa:- AIREDALE, ALDENHAM, TETCOTT, DERWENT, GROVE. (V.C.N.S., 1757A/11 to A.S.C.B.S.)

Malta. Raids. 2 Bombers approached 0346/11. 1 crossed coast. Bombs sea. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1800/11)

/Catania....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Catania, Naples, Brindisi, bombed.	4 F.A.A. aircraft attacked Catania aerodrome. Weather prevented observation results. 8 Swordfish to attack battleship off Messina (my 1.236) - nothing found. Nuisance raids Wellingtons. 2 attacked Naples. Results unobserved cloud. 2 attacked Brindisi. Bursts between floating dock and seaplane base and near factory at harbour entrance. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1821/11)
UPRIGHT.	UPRIGHT leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 0001B/12 direct for patrol L arriving p.m./13. (Capt. S.10., 1855B/11 to URGE).
UPHOLDER.	Details. (C.A.F.O. 1278/41) of sinking of U/B probably PERLA class, on 8/11 and of 2 destroyers, AVIERE class, 9/11. (Capt. S.10, 1945B/11 to Admty) See Lion Copy.
Convoy Action 9/11.	-Final summing up of Sunday's operations by Force K and UPHOLDER:- 4 destroyers and 10 merchant ships sunk. (V.A., Malta, 2031B/11 to Admty C. in C. Med).
ATLAS (German).	Arrived loaded about 500 tons steel plate for Genoa to complete cargo. Expected sail 13th. (Alicante, 2045/11 to Admty etc).
UPHOLDER, enemy use of A/C for A/S. U-boat sunk 0400/8.	UPHOLDER reports white parachute flare followed by red Very light dropped from enemy aircraft over him at 2330/7 in 036° 00' 015° 42'. This is similar to German procedure in North Sea for aircraft co-operating with E-boats and light surface forces against S/Ms. UPHOLDER sank southbound U-boat in 036° 19' 016° 22' 5 hours later. Consider probable that enemy are patrolling east of Malta outside R.D.F. range. (Capt. S.10, 2243B/11 to S/Ms on patrol).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S. Ships, Mombasa.

Your 2005/2 M. of W.T. Agent states there has been no constructive delay to American ships at Mombasa (ii) A number of American ships continue to call at Mombasa for orders but no orders have been received for them there. Your 1722/29/7 refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 0730Z/11 to Admty.)

AUSTRALIA W.S.12 X.

AUSTRALIA is due for docking now and refit in December. 2. As her next commitment is W.S.12 X from Cape first week December suggest opportunity be taken now for self refit at extended notice. 3. Can ship be given quick docking either at Durban or Simonstown before W.S.12 X leaves? 4. On receipt of instructions from F.O.I.C. Simonstown AUSTRALIA report requirements for extended notice to effect short self refit.
(C. in C. E.I. 0800Z/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)
Reply: 1025Z/12.

Indo-China Contraband.

French Officer from Indo-China informs me that rubber tin ? and rice are hidden by Indo Chinese Authorities on sick repatriation ships. Operation was carried on openly in August.
(F.F.N.L.O. Aden, 1239Z/11 to F.S.N.O. Pointe Noire, F.N.F.L. London.)

Vichy Shipping.

Understand from intercepted Signals that Vichy Ships CAP VARELLA, VILLE DE VERDUN, and SI KIANG are in Indo China waters perhaps at Saigon pending the return.
(F.F.N.L.O. Aden, 1508Z/11 to French S.N.O. Pointe Noire, F.N.F.L London.)

Use of Dante.

R/C party report indicates Dante suitable as coal bunkering port using lighters. Was used as such by Italian Navy. 8,000-ton vessel has anchorage in south bay which is safe during N.E. Monsoon. This would be main dump for loading and discharging During S.W. Monsoon ships can be coaled from secondary dump which could be made at Carducci in north bay whenever main anchorage impossible. Cable what action should be taken here.
(G.O.C. in C. E. Africa 1930/11 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DOMINION MONARCH.	Admty. 1451/7/10 para (2). DOMINION MONARCH after disembarkation at Singapore should proceed to New Zealand for loading to U.K. (D.S.T. 0327A/11 to F.O. Malaya.)
QUITO (or BOGOTA)	Kobe arrival 7/11 German Tanker believed to be QUITO. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0334Z/11 to Admty. etc.) May be BOGOTA. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 0436Z/13.)
Japanese Moves.	F.E.W.56. Large recent increase of transport movements indicates desire to complete preparations as soon as possible. Combined Fleet including all aircraft carriers remains home waters. (C.S. Singapore 0946Z/11 to Admty. etc.)

America and West Indies.

H.X.160	Concur your 1926A/10. (Opnav 0250/11 to Admty.)
O.N.33	ST. LAURENT believed to have rejoined escort unit 4.1.11, ref. my 2225/10. (No further information received concerning ST. LAURENT) (Opnav 0820/11 to Admty.)
St. Thomas, fuel.	It is considered that by completing with fuel here and sailing vessels direct, voyage is shortened about 2 days. Several masters of ships have said they were told not to take much coal to St. Thomas in order to avoid depleting of stock. Company informs me 10 to 12,000 tons of coal per month available for these ships alone. (N.C.S.O. St. Thomas 1011/11 to Admty.) Reply: 1754/12.
P.511 P.551	Your 1819R/4/9. Request confirmation that P.511 and P.551 are now capable of (A) Submerged reception Rugby (B) Transmitting on Home Station H/F Waves. (F.O.S., 1144A/11 to B.A.D.) Your 1144/11. This is confirmed. (B.A.D., 1705R/11)

/S.C.54 ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

S.C.54 BRANDON. BRANDON escorting S.C.54 has orders to continue with convoy to prudent limit thence to Greenock for training Tobermory.
(C.C.N.F. 1258Z/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, etc.)

Refits. N.S.H.Q's 1340Z/17/10.

A.M.C.LETHBRIDGE	Halifax	November	10	November	14.
MAYFLOWER	"	"	10	"	14
PRESCOTT	"	"	10	"	14
WASAGA	"	"	10	"	17
COWICHAN	"	"	10	"	17

(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1405Z/11 to Ottawa.)

SURCOUF. Boston arrived French Cruiser submarine SURCOUF.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1422Z/11 to Admty.)

MERRIMACK. Your 1322A/8. U.S. MERRIMACK arrived Norfolk 21/10. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1448Z/11 to Admty.)

P.511 P.551 Routes. C. in C. A. and W.I. 10420/9. Route to St. Johns N.F. through positions (P) 41° N. 68° W. (Q) 46° N. 58° W. (R) 46° 30' N. 52° 45' W. R.C.A.F. bombing restrictions will be arranged by C.O.A.C.
(C.O.A.C. 1626Z/11 to B.A.D.)

CLARKIA. My 22120/5?. Examination of CLARKIA reveals bad (?scoring) of seating for A/S dome and extensive scraping on bottom particularly in way of engine and boiler rooms. Docking is necessary. Bermuda Dock is not available and it is proposed that (?ships should) proceed U.S. for repairs. Board of enquiry into grounding being held Bermuda 14/11.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 16520/11 to Admty.)

CARNARVON CASTLE. C. in C. S.A. 1741/10. Can CARNARVON CASTLE be accepted in U.S.A. for general refit and examination and refit as necessary of main machinery units? Ship could be available in U.S.A. about mid December.
(D.O.D.(F) 1657A/11 to B.A.R.M.)

STELLA LYKES. Have you any news of American STELLA LYKES due Trinidad 7/11 from Durban? (D.T.D.1722A/11 to N.C.S.O. Trinidad) Reply: 0912/12.

NEVADA. Have you any news of American NEVADA due Curacao 6/11 from Buenos Aires? (D.T.D.1723A/11 to N.C.S.O. Curacao.) Reply: No. (1010GR/12.)

/PANDORA ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

American and West Indies - Contd.

PANDORA. B.A.R.M's 0913R/1 and 0856R/5. On completion of working up practices at New London PANDORA should be sailed to Gibraltar via Bermuda ready for service. On arrival at Gibraltar PANDORA is to rejoin 1st S/M Flot.
(D.O.D.(F) 1755A/11 to B.A.R.M., B.A.D. etc.)

ROBIN HOOD. suspicious ship. S.S. ROBIN HOOD reports sighting suspicious vessel at 0510 G.C.T./11 26° - 50' S. 06° - 10' E. Large grey Freighter TALLEYRAND type, steering S. and later S.W., cruiser stern, Swedish flag side and flying aft. (other details). Smoke from other vessel visible 15 miles.
(Opnav 1955Z/11 to Admty.)

LIVERPOOL. Arrival Balboa 1715 zone plus 5/11.
(N.C.S.O. Panama 1947/11 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

TREVERBYN.
(sunk
? 21/10.)

Owners of British TREVERBYN, 5281 tons, informed ship must be presumed lost. Was bound from Pepel to Cardiff with ore in S.L.89, and missing after U/B attacks on that Convoy. Thought probable she was torpedoed and sunk on 21/10 about 360 miles W. of Fastnet.
(D.S., 798, 11/11.)

BRADFORD
CITY.
(torpedoed
1/11.)

My 2230/10. Master has telegraphed vessel torpedoed 0545/1 23° S., 09° 43'W. 2nd lifeboat containing 24 officers and men last seen 1/11, 22 hours, have suggested Windhoek South Africa aeroplanes might be instructed to endeavour to locate.
(Mossamedes, 0815/11, to Admty.)
My 1626/10. Following information obtained from survivors of BRADFORD CITY. Ship torpedoed 0500 G.M.T. Saturday 1/11 in 022° 59' S., 009° 40' E. (1) Track of torpedo observed just before impact. Vessel hit after end of number 2 hold port side and cargo burst into flames. Vessel sank at 0550 G.M.T. bows listing to port. All crew left in 2 boats, one man injured. (3) S/M surfaced alongside port side then submerged and surfaced ahead on starboard bow. (4) Following details of S/M reported. Approx., 500 tons similar to silhouette of U-boats 45 to 55 in book of reference 145/40. Painted recently dark green with U 35 or L 35 in black on conning tower. 3 inch gun forward and small H.A. gun Breda type aft. Crew may be Italian with German officers. (5) S/M enquired name of ship, cargo carried and where from, then made off to westward and submerged.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0818Z/11, to Admty. etc.)
Your 2345/10 (not to Mossamedes). Boat containing about 20 survivors from same ship landed 126 miles north of Walvis Bay. Number awaits confirmation. Presume this completes crew.
(S.O.I., Capetown, 1600B/11, to Consul General Loanda.)
My 0818/11. Consul Loanda's 2345/10 since received which reported arrival Bahia dos Tigres 1500/10 2nd boat, BRADFORD CITY with Captain, First Mate and 20 men. S.O.(I) Capetown is informing Consul Loanda that first boat has already reached coast north of Walvis Bay.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1613B/11, to Admty. etc.)

/CASTILLO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

CASTILLO OROPESA. (torpedoed 8/11.)

Spanish S.S. CASTILLO OROPESA 5,177 tons, in ballast, torpedoed and sunk 0700/8 while lying off Melilla waiting to enter harbour to load iron ore for Gijon and well inside territorial waters. Director of Shipping convinced Axis U-boat responsible. Pieces of torpedo now under examination. Submit statement should be made and broadcast by B.B.C. in Spanish without comment to effect that no British and/or allied S/M operating in that area.
(N.A. Madrid, 1843/11, to D.N.I.)

Submarines Reported.

22272/10.

D/F Bearing at 22272 10th indicates U-boats within 150 miles of 2° N., 10° 30' W.
(C. in C.S.A., 0246N/11 to ARMERIA.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1424A/11, 1423A/11.)

Submarines Attacked.

By Hudson. A/C. 1326/11.

Am over enemy S/M in 48.50N., 11.20W. S/M on surface 180° 6 knots.
(A/C L. 1326/11 to 19 Group.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 2 hits.
(A/C L 1335/11 to 19 Group.)
Aircraft attacked U-boat 48.50 N., 11.20W., course 180° 6 knots at 1326. 3 Hudsons ordered to attack.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1350/11 to DUNCAN.)
Details of attack at 1326. (D.O.R.12/11.)
My 1350 11th further reports indicate attack possibly successful.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2236/11, to DUNCAN, D.S., 799, 12/11.)

By UPHOLDER.

U/B sunk 8/11. (Capt. S.10, 2243B/11.)
See Mediterranean.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.Contd.

CASTILLO OROPESA. (torpedoed 8/11.)

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(N.A. Madrid, 1843/11, to D.N.I.)

Submarines Reported.

22272/10.

D/F Bearing at 2227Z 10th indicates U-boats within 150 miles of 2° N., 10° 30' W.
(C. in C.S.A., 0246N/11 to ARMERIA.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1424A/11, 1423A/11.)

Submarines Attacked.

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By UPHOLDER.

U/B sunk 8/11. (Capt. S.10, 2243B/11.)
See Mediterranean.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Watch for Enemy Units.

Air patrols were ordered from noon today north of the Shetlands and Faeroes and east of Iceland (C), but owing to several long range aircraft being damaged in the gale and difficulty of operating until the weather moderates Coastal Command will be unable to maintain effective patrols in thoseareas during the next few days.

RODNEY with 3 destroyers arrived at Hvalfiord at 0940 and CUMBERLAND at 1400 today. KENYA arrived at Seidisfiord at 11152.

VENOMOUS damaged.

KEPPEL reported at 0110A today that she had been in collision with VENOMOUS 14 miles West of Cape Wrath. VENOMOUS was holed and was towed to Aultbea. KEPPEL also sustained some damage.

Weather

Aberdeen was re-opened at 0835 today and Blyth at 0919A, but both ports were closed again, Aberdeen at 1700 and Blyth at 2144A.

Aircraft for Russia.

Six ships have arrived in Iceland for Convoy P.Q.4. All ships have one or more aircraft cases damaged or smashed. Several aircraft are completely wrecked. 3 or 4 days will be required to coal, water, remove wreckage and repair damage.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather severely curtailed flying today and caused all operations planned for tonight to be cancelled.

Two Coastal Command aircraft sank a 900 ton merchant ship 12 miles west of the Helder.

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing trawler BEN SCREEL was attacked this afternoon near Berwick fishing grounds, slight damage being caused.

A hulk being towed by H.M.Tug DANUBE V was slightly damaged by air attack near Humber Light Float at 0936 today.

R.F.A. WAR NIZAM was slightly damaged by air attack off Aldeburgh last night.

H.M.T.'s FRANCOLIN and COMMANDER HOLBROOK were attacked 7½ miles S.E. of Foulness Buoy at 1015A today and shot down their attacker. FRANCOLIN was sunk.

Convoy O.N.M.36 called for help at 1826 today in 51° 46' N., 4° 37' W. (Carmarthen Bay). No details are known.

It is reported that S.S. MONMOUTH COAST was attacked by 2 aircraft at 1800 today one mile south of Read Head, Waterford.

Mining.

The small motor vessel MAURITA was sunk by explosion, probably a mine in the Dee Estuary at 1410 today.

MOST SECRET.

1

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

S.S. ROBIN HOOD reports sighting a suspicious vessel under Swedish colours at 0510/11 in 26° 50' S., 6° 10' E. The smoke from another vessel was visible 15 miles away. DEVONSHIRE left Simonstown at 2300/12 to search in the calm area south of St. Helena. (Note. The ship sighted by ROBIN HOOD was almost certainly S.S. TISNAREN carrying a deck cargo of aeroplanes, but C. in C. S.A. wishes DEVONSHIRE to carry out the search nevertheless.)

Mediterranean.

Operation "Perpetual".	7 Blenheims and 37 Hurricanes were flown off at 1015 and 1100 today in 37° 30' N., 4° 0' E., for Malta, from aircraft carriers with Force H. 3 Hurricanes failed to arrive.
Destroyers for Eastern Fleet.	JUPITER and ENCOUNTER are to be sailed to arrive at Trincomalee by 1/12 to join the Eastern Fleet.
Air Operations.	20 Wellingtons attacked Naples from 2209/11 to 0315/12. One Wellington bombed Syracuse seaplane station.
Libya & Western Desert.	25 Wellingtons bombed targets at Derna last night.

MOST SECRET.

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SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Kerguelen and Crozet Is.

AUSTRALIA searched the Kerguelen Islands 1/11 to 4/11, and Crozet Group 6/11 and 7/11 using her aircraft. She found no definite evidence of further use of the islands or anchorages by raiders. Mines were laid in certain of the anchorages.

America & West Indies.

S.C. Convoys.

It is hoped to continue assembling S.C. Convoys at Sydney until about 15/1 or later if ice conditions permit, after which S.C. and H.X. convoys will both be assembled at Halifax.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Pan-American aircraft sighted a S/M at 0745 today 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown about 50 miles off shore. U.S. aircraft are searching.

An unknown ship later known to be PERU, British, made a submarine distress signal at 1733Z today in 1° 15' N., 12° 28' W. PERU, independent from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., left Capetown 31/10. 3 boats with survivors were found in 03.22 N., 12.52 W. on 14/11.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Kirkwall. With only one Collier available, shortening daylight, and winter gales, turn round of Northern Patrol Trawlers at Kirkwall is being delayed. Request a second Collier may be sailed to Kirkwall without delay and maintained there throughout the winter months. There is no Collier available for this duty at Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 1858A/12.)

Co-operation with Russia.

S.S.T.O. Following for S.S.T.O. Your 1000/10. Your return approved. (D.S.T. 0539A/12 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

"Y" Station at Murmansk. It is intended to establish a small "Y" station at Murmansk, to read German traffic. Staff will be ready to leave U.K. end November. Request details of power supply available. (V.C.N.S. 1037A/12 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk.)

Military situation. 1400C - B.B.C. reports of Finnish claims denied here. Front unchanged except on Zapadnaya Litsa Sector where Russians advancing and have found about 800 dead Germans. Railway has not been cut by Finnish ski patrols. S.B.N.O. North Russia 1840C/12 to Adty.)

Withdrawal of R.A.F. personnel from Murmansk. Ref. A.M.2333A/9. 1st M.F. Intend sail 3 minesweepers for Murmansk in near future to fetch 7 Officers and 60 airmen. These will be distributed as follows. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1938C/12.)

Movements.

TUNA. (1) Intend to sail TUNA escorted by HIBISCUS at 1500A/12 for 061° N. 003° 30' W. E.T.A. 0800A/14.
(2) Thence HIBISCUS to Liverpool.
(3) Thence TUNA to north eastward proceeding on surface at C.O's discretion.
(4) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation.
(Capt. S.3. 0859A/12.
My 0859A. Add four hours to all times.
(Capt. S.3. 1726A/12.)
TUNA escorted by HIBISCUS may be passed during the night. (C. in C. W.A. 1806A/12 to SUNDEW and 1852A/12 to HURWORTH and 2251A/12 to SHAPINSAY.)

/Sailed ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

TUNA contd. Sailed TUNA and HIBISCUS in accordance with S.3's 0859A/12 four hours late. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1946/12.)
My 0859A/12. (a) Onward route of TUNA from position (i) 061° N. 003° 30' W. on surface at C/Os discretion through position. (ii) 063° N. 001° W. to position (iii) 066° N. 006° E. thence submerged by day to carry out operation "Familiar".
B. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side of route indicated at (a) as follows. (Capt. S.3. 2331A/12.)

SUNFISH. Weather permitting intend to sail tug STALWART towing S/M SUNFISH and escorted by HOLDERNESS to Portsmouth as convenient to pass Sand Head Buoy at 1830/13. (C. in C. Nore 1012A/12.)
Take STALWART with SUNFISH in tow, under your orders and leave Sheerness in company at 1130 tomorrow and proceed by Swept Channels in force to Portsmouth. Speed should be adjusted to pass Sand Head Buoy at 1830 thence at about 7 knots or at best speed weather conditions will allow. Should weather deteriorate whilst on passage and tow become unmanageable you should put into nearest port of refuge until weather moderates. Tow is to be stationed close astern and close escort maintained throughout passage. S.A. Gear is to be operated until Dumpton Buoy is passed during which time tow is to be 4 cables astern. (C. in C. Nore 1206A/12 to HOLDERNESS.)

P.35. Leave patrol after dark 14th for Dundee diving by day routed as follows. (Capt. S.9. 1715A/12 to P.35.)

GERANIUM. To avoid U-Boats alter course from position 055° 20' N. 015° W. to (J) 050° 020° thence to new (G) 045° 022° and to (H). Omit (E) and (F). (C. in C. W.A. 1755A/12 to GERANIUM.)

P.36. F.O.S.1209A/11. P.36 will now be used for an operation which requires her to leave her patrol zone p.m. 28th. She is to return direct to Dartmouth and be employed there on A/S practices subsequently proceeding to arrive Portsmouth on 4/12, sailing for Mediterranean about 18/12. (F.O.S. 1824A/12.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

HAZARD.
HEBE.
SHARPSHOOTER.
GOSSAMER.
HUSSAR.
LEDA,
SEAGULL.

R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to sail HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER for Archangel on completion of short practice period.
(ii) S.O. 1st M.S.F's 2135C/7. Sailing of GOSSAMER and HUSSAR with Q.P.3 is approved. LEDA and SEAGULL are to be sailed with next Q.P. convoy after arrival of HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER.
(iii) It is hoped to relieve BRAMBLE and SPEEDY before end of December. S.O.1st M.S.F. report how ships and personnel are standing up to weather.
(C. in C. H.F. 1832Z/12.)

14th M.G.B. Flotilla.

Request 14th M.G.B. Flotilla be sailed so as to arrive Portsmouth by P.M./19th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1837A/12 to V.A. Dover.)

WESTMINSTER.
WOLSEY.

My 1740A/12. For 0200A/13 read 0300A/13.
(WESTMINSTER 2055A/12.)
WESTMINSTER and WOLSEY proceeding by Q.Z.S.287 S. of A. 15 knots due East Dudgeon 0300/13th.
(C. in C. Nore 2147A/12.)
Proceed by A.M. Q.Z.S. 308 and 288. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Nore 2323A/12 to WESTMINSTER.)

KUJAWIAK.

KUJAWIAK is to remain off St. Annes Head on arrival. Orders will be sent out by (ULLESWATER). Keep well clear of entrance as movement will be taking place 0830 until 1000 when W.P.M.65 sails.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2220/12 to KUJAWIAK.)

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit.

My 1207A/11. Weather now suitable.
(V.A.2 0805A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)
P.35 is to be ordered to leave patrol after dark 14th and to return to Dundee.
(F.O.S. 1102A/12 to Capt. S.9.)
Arrived RODNEY, IMPULSIVE, ANTELOPE and ONSLOW 0940. (A.C.I.C. 1120N/12.)
Seidisfiord 1115Z/12 KENYA arrived.
(C.S.10 1120Z/12.)
Arrival CUMBERLAND 1400.
(A.C.I.C. 1634N/12.)
In addition to cruisers and above and northbound merchant ships with them you may now attack any large merchant ship whether escorted or not and irrespective of its course. You must however reserve at least 4 torpedoes for attacks on cruisers or above.
(F.O.S. 1652A/12 to P.35.)

/Proceed ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Heavy Unit contd.

Proceed passing Switha 0820/13 to Hvalfjord. On arrival act as ordered by C. in C. H.F. (R.A.D. 2204A/12 to ECHO.)

M.G.B. engagement.

At 1923/11 which was very dark with rain and N.E. wind Force 4, an R.D.F. Plot of enemy shipping commenced close off Gris Nez.
Plot divided and one plot of two vessels probably not large took coastal route and may have entered Calais off which plot faded about 2100.
The other plot of several small craft diverged.
Passed at about 2130 through a position midway between Dover and Calais and thence between Sandettie and Outer Ruytingen. The average speed was about five knots which suggests trawlers.
Convoy C.W.57 passing Dover delayed despatch of Striking Forces until 2100 when M.G.Bs 316, 312, 314 and 317 were sent to intercept enemy force then in Mid Channel.
Fanhole South Foreland 6" battery opened fire at a range of about 21,000 yards firing by R.D.F. but without effect.
M.G.Bs were directed on the enemy craft by R.D.F. and made contact at 2257 when there was a brief inconclusive engagement, but they were unable to keep touch or determine composition of enemy force.
M.G.Bs continued to search until 0330 without regaining touch, R.D.F. plots having ceased at 0025. (V.A. Dover 1105A/12.)

SEALION Patrol.

My 2207C/11. SEALION sailed.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1601C/12.)

Landing Exercise.

Landing exercise arranged by N.O.I.C. Dartmouth and 209 Brigade will take place at Brixham at 2100 tonight.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1610/12.)

Dover Patrols.

For night 12/13. Two M.Ls leave Dover at 1800 on an easterly course returning about 2230.
One M.L. leaves Dover at 1745 on an easterly course returning about 0200/13.
(V.A. Dover 1639A/12.)

South Biscay Patrol.

Cancel Capt.(S) S 1453A/10. Proceed to patrol in vicinity 044° 16' N. 005° 30' W.
(F.O.S. 1836A/12 to UNA.)
My 1836A/12th. Keep good look out for eastbound merchant ships. U-Boat may be met in this area. S.B.R. in area 56 until further notice and in area 54 as previously arranged.
(F.O.S. 1857A/12 to UNA.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Owing to several long range aircraft being damaged in gale and difficulty of operating until weather moderates, Coastal Command will be unable to maintain effective "Sentry" patrols during next few days.
(A.C.N.S. H. 0048A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)
A.M.1309A/11.
(A) Is still required when weather permits.
(B) Owing to gale casualties it is understood that the three "Sentry" Patrols cannot be established. Request date when it is anticipated these patrols can operate.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1007A/12 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)
All three "Sentry" patrols can be operated for limited period as soon as weather moderates.
(H.Q.C.C. 1705/12 to Adty.)

T.B.R.

S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1809C/9. Request T.B.R. 30 miles either side line joining (a) 067° 49' N. 007° E. and 065° N. 002° 55' E. from 1200/19 until 1500/22. (b) 065° N. 002° 55' E. and 063° N. 000° 15' E. from 1500/20 until 1000/23. Request T.B.R. in area 22 East of 003° W. from 1000/21 until 0800/24 and in area 14, west of 001° E. and in area 21 East of 003° W. from 0001/22 until further notice.
(F.O.S. 1219A/12 to H.Q.C.C.)

Party "Spitfire".

Hatson's 1245/12. Party "Spitfire" consisting of 2 officers and about 30 ratings with seven tons of baggage will be flown to Carew Cheriton a.m./13th. Request every effort may be made to embark party in ROYAL SOVEREIGN before sailing. Personnel already embarked are to remain on board in any case.
(D.N.A.D. 1815A/12 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Hulk attacked.

H.M. Tug DANUBE V. at Grimsby. Hulk she was towing from Tilbury to Rosyth is anchored in vicinity of Humber Light Float. Hulk attacked by aircraft near Humber Light Float at 0936 today. No serious damage. No casualties.
(F.O. Humber 1801A/12.)

WAR NIZAM.

Arrived Killingholme. Slight damage from Air attack off Aldeburgh last night. No casualties.
(F.O. Humber 1803A/12.)

FRANCOLIN (M/S Trawler) Sunk.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Yarmouth. Begins my 1306A. FRANCOLIN and CDR. HOLBROOK attacked by D.O.17 in position S.40 E 7½ miles Foulness Buoy at 1015A. FRANCOLIN hit by

/bomb ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

FRANCOLIN (M/S Trawler) Sunk. contd.

bomb in wireless cabin. Aircraft shot down by combined fire. Part of fuselage and rubber dinghy brought to harbour. FRANCOLIN sank in N. 25 E. 2 miles Haisborough lighthouse.
1750A/12 Ends.
(C. in C. Nore. 1914A/12.)

Convoy.

Help Convoy "Poker" position 51° 46' N. 4° 37' W. Course 334°, speed 10 knots.
(Liverpool W/T 1826/12.)

Mining.

S.N.83 B.

Arrival PORT QUEBEC, CHARLESTON 0430/12, R.A.M. in MENESTHEUS 0700/12.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0715/12.)
Arrival BRIGHTON and NEWARK.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1145/12.)

Tobermory and Londonderry Fields.

My 1131/11. Fields will be laid p.m./12 and a.m./13 respectively.
(R.A.M. 1046/12.)
Sailed PORT QUEBEC and CHARLESTON.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1327/12.)
My 0946/7 and 2201/11, C. in C. W.A. 1449A/8.
Delete NEWARK.
(R.A.M. 1907/12.)

N.P.7.

My 1616A/11. Operation will be carried out tonight Wednesday.
(V.A. Dover 1611A/12.)

MAURITA. (British, 201 Tons) sunk.

Motor Vessel MAURITA was sunk by explosion probably mine in Hilbre Swash, Dee Estuary at 1410 today. Believed no survivors.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1816A/12.)

Navigational.

Jan Mayen.

Your 2300A/11th to NORFOLK. No ice seen east of Jan Mayen. Loose ice dangerous to destroyers met north of Bear Island. Convoys should keep south.
(C.S.1 0035A/12 to Adty.)

Aberdeen.

Port now open. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0835/12.)
Port of Aberdeen closed on account of weather.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1700/12.)

/Blyth ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational contd.

Blyth.

My 0930A/10. Port open.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 0919A/12.)
Blyth port closed owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth 2144A/12.)

Casualties and Defects.

VENOMOUS
KEPPEL
damaged.

Have been in collision with VENOMOUS in position 280° Cape Wrath 14. VENOMOUS holed Starboard side. Engine room flooded. KINGCUP taking in tow. Request salvage tugs immediately.
(KEPPEL 0110A/12 to C. in C. W.A.)
Sail MARAUDER with despatch to assist VENOMOUS.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0223A/12 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)
My 0110/12. VENOMOUS in tow J.M.S. KINGCUP reports bulkhead holding pump working. No immediate danger apparent. Course and speed 193°, 5. KEPPEL stem buckled above and below waterline. Fore Peak flooded number 5 collision bulkhead undamaged. Am standing by tow until daylight.
(KEPPEL 0330A/12.)
VENOMOUS in tow MARAUDER. P.C.S. 58° 16' N. 05° 41' W., 193°, 5 knots. VENOMOUS reported water approximate sea level in engine room. Anticipate keeping steam for about 2 more hours after which water will gain but should not be dangerous if bulkhead holds. KINGCUP rejoins convoy. KEPPEL still standing in tow. Consider more advisable repair bow damage than to continue. Request destination for VENOMOUS and KEPPEL and that if destroyer is being sent to supplement escort on O.N.S.35 I may embark.
(KEPPEL 1047A/12)
VENOMOUS is to be towed to Clyde if possible. Are you able to proceed with convoy.
(C. in C. W.A. 1130A/12 to KEPPEL.)
VENOMOUS is to be towed to Rothesay Bay if weather and safety of ship permit.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1215A/12 to MARAUDER.)
Your 1047A/12. No destroyer available. Proceed to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A. 1301A/12 to KEPPEL.)
Arrival tug MARAUDER with VENOMOUS in tow.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1449A/12.)
KEPPEL's 1047A/12. VENOMOUS can be taken in hand for damage repairs by Messrs. Scotts, Greenock, and KEPPEL by Messrs. Fairfield.
(D.O.D. H. 1722A/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

/BLYSKAWICA ....

MOST SECRET

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Casualties and Defects - contd.

BLYSKAWICA. A.M.1700A/9. Subject to trials BLYSKAWICA will be ready for service 19/11 except that type 285 will be incomplete. Work will require at least 10 extra working days. Suggest that work be completed at Portsmouth and delay accepted. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1123A/12.)
Your 1123A/12. Concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1608A/12 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

PRIMROSE. Oscillators out of action.
(PRIMROSE 1510Z/12.)

Orkney Ring Cable. The Howequoy Flotta section of Orkney ring cable has parted and is also damaged. Request cable ship as soon as possible to repair.
(A.C.O.S. 1737A/12.)

FRISKY. Your 1226A/12. FRISKY should be sailed for Greenock for examination.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1815/12 to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown)

Shipping and Convoys.

GLENARTNEY. Your 1154A/11. Ship should be sailed in next O.S. Convoy being given safest place in convoy.
(D.O.D. H. 0042A/12 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.)

D.S.16. My 0340/6. LEINSTER will not now sail with D.S.16. (D.S.T. 0345A/12.)

S.L.91.
S.L.91 G. Your 2011Z/11. Ships of 9½ knots are to proceed forthwith at best speed along route ordered escorted by BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, CARNATION, HELIOTROPE, STONECROP, and CAMPION. Convoy will be designated S.L.91 G.
(C. in C. W.A. 1101A/12.)

P.Q.3. Your 1831A/10 para.(d) and (e). Position (z) at 0700Z/20 is 145 miles from R/V given in C. in C. H.F. 1348A/3 for which my signal 1601N/9 gave time of meet as 0900Z/20.
(A.C.I.C. 1148N/12 to Adty.)

W.N.3. My 1556/11. SABOR and NESTUN proceeding Scapa. POLYKTOR has made and cancelled request for D/F bearing. Nothing known of EMPIRE CLIFF reported by VALETA as missing from convoy. BOLBEC and MARIANNE rejoining from Scapa. Convoy now leaving Thurso Bay.
(A.C.O.S. 1155/12.)

/W.N.6. ....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys contd.

W.N.6. Your 0930A/12. Escorts for W.N. convoys can be provided in accordance with schedule but it is suggested that Zero time for W.N.6 should be advanced by at least 12 hours as escorts with this convoy will be required to return with E.N.9 which is due to sail at 1000/20.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1630A/12 to N.C.S.O. Oban.)

T.C.14. Arrived PIORUN, GARLAND escorting T.C.14.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1644A/12.)

S.C.53. Is being re routed via Iceland route. VANOC proceed Iceland to refuel if fuel permits.
(C. in C. W.A. 1701A/12 to VANOC.)

P.Q.4. Following 6 ships for P.Q.4 now here: ALMA ATTA, MOSSOVET, RODINA, SUKHONA, BUDENNI, DANY BRYN. BUDENNI requires 150 tons Coal. 3 ships require water. SUKHONA has main topmast and rigging down and only one lifeboat left. All ships have one or more aircraft cases damaged or smashed. Several aircraft are completely wrecked. Anticipate 3 to 4 days required to coal, water, remove, wreckage and repair damage.
(A.C.I.C. 1713N/12.)

T.C.15. Names and destinations of vessels comprising T.C.15 are as follows.
(D.O.D.H. 1723A/12.)

Personnel at Murmansk for U.K. C. in C. H.F. 1423Z/10. Maximum accommodation available.

KENYA	20	officers	400	men
BEDOUIN	10	"	80	"
INTREPID	10	"	20	"

No beds or blankets available on board. Personnel should be ready to embark by 20/11. Expected destroyers will arrive Murmansk about that date and KENYA on 23/11. Admty. pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia S.B.N.O. Archangel and Admiral Miles.
(C.S.10 1759Z/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

S.L.92 Request you will sail BRADFORD to join S.L.92 North of Azores.
(C. in C. W.A. 1806A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Suffixes for Iceland portions of Atlantic Convoys. Your 1216Z/11. Concur.
(Opnav 1824Z/12 to Admty.)

/E.N. Convoys ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys contd.

E.N. Convoys.

Your 1822/31/10. It is most desirable that the sailing of E.N. convoys should be kept as flexible as possible in order that ships joining ocean convoys should not be unnecessarily delayed, and proposals in C. in C. Rosyth's 1519/1/11 are generally concurred in.
(A.C.N.S. T. 1907A/12 to A.C.O.S.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CASTILLO OROPESA. — Spanish, sunk by U/B off Melilla 8/11. (See U-boat Campaign).

French Shipping. — Passings 11/11. THISBE, CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, KITA, KERMARA, eastwards full. (V.A.C.N.A., 0909A/12 to Admty for M.E.W.)

OLYMPUS. — Your 1908A/10. Delayed 2½ hours by weather. (OLYMPUS, 0930A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MYRLAND, KENNET. — MYRLAND and KENNET arrived Ponta Delgada 1030 G.M.T./12. KENNET stood by MYRLAND owing to slight engine defect in latter. Coaling here. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1145/12, to S.O.(I) Gib).
MYRLAND, KENNET and S.S. LULWORTH HILL left Ponta Delgada 2130 G.M.T./12.
Proceeding direct to Port Kennedy F vide C. in C. W.A., 0018A/17/10 to MYRLAND, S. of A. 8½ knots. KENNET may have to call Bathurst for bunkers. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, T.H.I. 1950/12, to S.O.(I) Gib).

RANGITATA, WILD SWAN, WISHART. — A.M. 2245A/10 (escort for RANGITATA with Service personnel) Para. (vi) Intend to employ WILD SWAN and WISHART.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1202A/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

FORMIGNY, CAUDEBEC, (French). — Arrivals 11/11 FORMIGNY, 9/11 CAUDEBEC. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1218/12 to M. of W.T.)

AUDACITY O.G. 76. — Their Lordships congratulate you on your successful actions against the Focke-Wulf which undoubtedly played a large part in ensuring the safe passage of the convoy. (5th S.L., 1733A/12 to AUDACITY).

BRADFORD, S.L.92. — Request you will sail BRADFORD to join S.L. 92 north of Azores. (C. in C. W.A., 1806A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Air .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Air Report "Perpetual" U-boat.

202 Sqdn. 1 Catalina escort Force H to east, operation "Perpetual". 0730 - 1930. Area covered Gibraltar to 0400 E. 209 Squadron 1 Catalina A/S search 140 miles to East. 1530 - 1930. 1 Blenheim returning from operation "Perpetual" reported large U-boat stationary on surface, 36.30 N., 03.23 W., at 1045. (200 Group, 1830/12) See U-boat Campaign.

S/Ms exercise opportunities.

With increasing dilution of submarine crews and the consequent loss of experience, together with lack of facilities at home for realistic exercises with surface ships, it is important that no opportunity should be missed for working up new construction submarines and recently refitted submarines. Appreciated if arrangements could be made, when possible, for these submarines to carry out a few days exercising at Gibraltar, which should include attacks on high speed targets, and night exercises with Warships, before they proceed to join their Flotillas in Mediterranean. (F.O.S., 1902A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Gibraltar.

Re proposed defence measures against midget S/M attack and possible Spanish reaction. (V.A.C.N.A., 2002A/12 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

South Atlantic.

ROBIN HOOD, suspicious ship, 11/11 DEVONSHIRE.

Following received from U.S. Authorities (quotes Opnav's 1935/11) (D.D.I.C., 0346A/12 to C. in C. S.A., Force G., CARNARVON CASTLE) Admty 0346A/12. Hasten sailing of DEVONSHIRE. (C. in C. S.A., 0902N/12 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown). Admty 0346A/12. This ship might be proceeding to calm area South of St. Helena. If no further news carry out three-day search in this area subsequently shortening route to Freetown as necessary. (C. in C. S.A., 0951N/12 to DEVONSHIRE).

/Your.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ROBIN HOOD suspicious ship, 11/11 DEVONSHIRE Contd.

Your 0346A/12. Suspicious vessel sighted by ROBIN HOOD was probably TISNAREN carrying deck cargo of aeroplanes. This ship was originally routed close to this position and should have been there about time stated if diversion of 400 miles to westward ordered at 1900/7 was not received as is quite probable. N.O.I.C. Simonstown pass to S.O. Force G. (C. in C. S.A., 1145N/12, to Admty). Following is repetition of my 1316Z/12. Your 0902/12. DEVONSHIRE will sail at 2300 G.M.T./12. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1844Z/12, to C. in C. S.A) DEVONSHIRE arrived Simonstown 1210Z/12 and departed 2300Z/12 for calm area and Freetown. S. of A. 18 knots. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2303Z/12).

AUSTRALIA refit.

Your 0800/11 AUSTRALIA can be accepted for docking at Simonstown 29/11 to undock 3/12. In meantime ship can be berthed at East London for self refit. My 0843/10 to C. in C. E.I. C. in C. S.A., only refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1025Z/12 1558Z/12 to C. in C. E.I.)

"Bellringer" Convoy Escort.

S.O.(I) Capetown 1230/12. See 1238/13.

BALTAVIA.

My 2025/8 BALTAVIA damage confined to stream line sheathing starboard shaft between hull and a bracket. Expected to sail P.M./13/11. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1516Z/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

Movements.

Summary at 2000/12. (C. in C. S.A., 1557N/12 1831N/12) See Lion Copy.

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, ORMONDE.

Your 1715/31. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE and ORMONDE expect to arrive Capetown 16/11 DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will subsequently be docked Simonstown a.m./16 (defects) before sailing for Freetown with ORMONDE. DONNOTTAR CASTLE 0925/12 which is being passed to C. in C. S.A. and Admty refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1607B/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

SSSS Report.

Freetown, T.O.R., 1733Z/12. See U-boat Campaign

/Visits from...

MOST SECRET.

1

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

Visits from Argentine N.O's.

Proposing that two Argentine N.O's be invited to visit England and be taken to Naval bases and establishments. I agree entirely, the effect on Navy here would be very great.
(N.A. Buenos Aires, 1955Z/12 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

Benghazi Derna, Gazala, Bardia, Berka bombed.

Night 10/11 Nov. 10 Wellingtons operated over Cyrenaica. 8 dropped bombs on main stores depot Benghazi, starting small fires. 1 bombed stores dumps Derna starting fires which spread over large area.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1114/12).

Warships for Turkey.

Following from Adm. Kelly. Your 2002A/7 A. Both M.F.A. and Minister of Defence informed me last night everything is approved and only formalities to be completed. Both hoped ships might be sailed when ? ready without waiting for further confirmation.
(N.A. Angora, 1152B/12 to Admty).

Inclusion of Red Sea in Med., Command.

My 1219B/18/10. The following changes are to come into force at 0900B/14. Para 2 the Port of Suez is to be included in Red Sea command.
Para. 8 N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O. Commanding Red Sea Force of all ports and anchorages in Gulf of Suez including anchorage J and of local defence craft in these ports. Any questions which affect the Suez Canal Authorities will continue to be dealt with by S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area.
(C. in C. Med., 1155B/12).

/Landing.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

Landing Craft.	Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 198 to C. in C. M.E. and Med., 1. Your O/20862 cipher 31/10 and O/23355 cipher 7/11 and C.O.S. No. 195. DERWENTDALE is already on passage to you. 2. We cannot decide on best distribution of special ships and allocation of landing craft until we can balance your needs against ours. We would therefore like to know broadly your plans for combined operations in the Spring. 3. In general we consider that your tank landing requirements can be met by an adequate number of T.L.C's reserve MISOA class with their long endurance for operations based on U.K. 4. Brigadier MacLeod should be prepared to explain your requirements. (1st S.L., 1218A/12 to C. in C. Med).
Enemy Units.	One merchant ship 2 destroyers 182° Skitza 2 miles course 100° 8 knots at 0955B. (Capt. S.10, 1255B/12 to S/Ms on Patrol)
ABBAZIA (Italian).	Reported (C.5) at 1705/9 as expected at Istanbul from Piraeus during next 72 hours. (D.S.800, 13/11)
P.34 SOKOL, URSULA.	Leave patrol to pass through 037° 20' 019° 50' at 2100B/15 making a short area report addressed to SOKOL when safe to do so then proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/18. SOKOL leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/13 direct to arrive 037° 34' 019° 50' about 0001B/16. URSULA due Glen 0730B/18 from S.E. S/Ms encountered at night are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1333B/12 to P.34).
LATONA.	A.F.O. 2552/40 and my 1332/26/10. Board of inquiry into the loss of LATONA will not be held as I am satisfied that it would serve no -useful purpose. Written report will be forwarded. (C. in C. Med., 1400/12)

/Operation.....

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Perpetual". 7 Blenheims and 34 Hurricanes arrived. (V.A. Malta, 1725B/12 to S.O. Force H.) W.D. Note. 37 Hurricanes took off. 3 missing see S.O. Force H., 1247/13.

SULLBERG, German. Arrival 12th. (Barcelona, 1748/12 to M. of W.T.)

JUPITER, ENCOUNTER. Your 2338A/10. F.O.C.R.I.N. 1151Z/7. In view of delay to KELVIN, JUPITER and ENCOUNTER are being sailed to join S.O. Force G. (C. in C. Med., 1812B/12 to Admty.) Request you will sail JUPITER and ENCOUNTER to arrive Trincomalee by 1/12. Intend programme should be repeated C. in C. E.I. and S.O. Force G. Ships are not expected to rejoin 14th D.F. and 2nd D.F. (C. in C. Med., 1816B/12 to R.A.D. Med.)

PROTEUS, intelligence. Trawler and air patrol within Gaidaro Island. Traffic Piraeus to Crete leaves after dark routed outside 100 fathom line eastward of Georgia Island thence direct. Searchlight sweep Doro Channel (PROTEUS, 1830/12 to Capt. S.1.)

M/Vs. attacked. Day 11/11. Six Blenheims shipping search Kerkenah. Three attacked M/V 4,000 tons 1345 hours 315° Kerkenah 12 miles. No hits. Also machine-gunned. M/V 1200 tons 1406 hours 65° Kerkenah 25 miles Southbound 8 knots machine-gunned. Three Blenheims attacked 500 ton Schooner 1345 hours 20 miles North Kerkenah no hits. Machine-gunned.

Naples and Syracuse bombed. Night 11/12, 20 Wellingtons successful attack Naples 2209 to 0315. Many hits marshalling yards, railway tracks, packing case yards, and area airframe works. Possible power station Mugnane hits. One aircraft engine trouble bombed railway station and area seaplane station Syracuse, large explosions and fires visible, 80 miles. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1907/12.)

Enemy Cruisers. 3 Cruisers 039° 23' 017° 22' 170° 20 knots at 1550B/12. (Capt. S.10., 1915Z/12 to UPRIGHT.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Russians and Persian Gulf.

Your 1309D/3 is being passed to C.in C. E.I. and S.N.O. Persian Gulf.
2. No such appointment has been notified to Admiralty and no purpose would appear to be served by a Russian N.O. for purely naval duties.
3. If request is put officially you should ascertain what is meant by S.N.O. Possible Russians may wish to appoint an Officer to assist with disembarkation and transport of supplies.
Any such request should come through Soviet Legation at Tehran.
4. Unless you think we could get some corresponding quid pro quo you should not encourage any further approaches.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0912A/12 to Adm. Miles).

M.L's.

Your 2008/10. (1) Suitable cranage not available at Mombasa for off loading M.L's. Request therefore they be shipped to Durban where 80 ton fixed crane exists.
(2) A.L. quoted received. See my 0732/20/10 (Re. A.L. M/LD 002487/41) to Admiralty only.
(C.in C. E.I. 1030Z/12 to Admty.).

AUSTRALIA Kerguelen and Crozet Cruise. Mining.

AUSTRALIA in Kerguelen Islands 1/11 to 4/11 inclusive and in Crozet Group 6th and 7/11. No definite evidence of further use by raider.
(ii) Mines laid as follows. Gazelle Basin 6. Long Island Sound 070° E 4. Island Harbour, 2. Tucker Turn Eastern entrance, 6. Istal 18.
(iii) Also visited Port Couvreux from which aerial search for all probable anchorages. Port Jeanne D/Arc. Christmas Harbour. Rhodes Bay. S.E. coast thence to Crozet passing close to East Island. Possession Island. Ship's Cove. American Bay. Hog Island. Boat Cove. Aerial search Penguin Island and Apostles.
(C.in C. E.I. 1415Z/12 to Admty.).

REPULSE, defects.

Your 1343A/9. Reply. (A) No. (B) By end of February. (C) Only brick work while ship remains at short notice for steam. Principal causes of anxiety are (list). I have waited to reply until convoy cleared Vichy French waters.
(REPULSE, 1601Z/12 to Admty.).

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping Reports.

Request you will report.
(1). What shipping movements are not at present reported to London by Vesca system.
(2). If complete interstation Vesca procedure vide C.B. 3000 A (38) para 103 (b) is now in force and if this is working satisfactorily.
(D.T.D. 1632A/12 to C.in C. China, C.in C. E.I. A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B.) Reply. C.in C. E.I. 0432Z/15. N.Z.N.B. 0120Z/15.

America and West Indies.

STELLA LYKES.

Your 1722A/11. Agent Lloyds STELLA LYKES advised ship proceed direct to New York without calling Port of Spain. (N.C.S.O. Port of Spain 09120/12 to Admty.).

NEVADA.

Your 1723A/11 no information.
(S.B.N.O. Curacao 1010QR/12 to Admty.).

DESPATCH.

My 1222Q/9. Visit to Barbados is cancelled. DESPATCH will leave Trinidad 16/11 and arrive St. Lucia 17/11 remainder of programme unchanged. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1012Q/12 to Admty.etc.).

U/Boat.

Following is repetition of message received from Pan American Pilot (begins) S/M 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown at 0745 today about 50 miles off shore O.C. U.S. troops always ready to take any action you may suggest as regards bombing squadron. (Bermuda 1021/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.). N.C.S.O. Georgetown 1021/12 being passed to Admty. and B.A.D. Request you arrange if possible for R/C by United States A/C. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1152Q/12 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad, N.C.S.O. Georgetown).
Georgetown British Guiana reports that Pan American pilot sighted submarine 100 miles N.W. of Georgetown at 0745/12. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1202Q/12 to Opnav).
Your 1152Q/12. U.S. bomber squadron, bombs loaded, left on R/C flight at 1230 local time. (Georgetown 1501/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

/One.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/Boat -Contd.

One U.S. R/C plane took off 1710 Q to search area (?120°) from S.W. Point of Trinidad. One Squadron from St. Lucia and one Squadron from here takes off at dawn/13 to search area from 62° W. through N.E. to 59° W and Coast of British Guiana.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1745Q/12 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

ST. LAURENT
PRIMROSE.

Your 1456Z/11. Have sustained heavy weather damage. Top mast carried away necessitating new top mast complete and radio D/F aerial. Lower (?half) bent. All boats smashed but repairable. Consider ship should be detached direct to Halifax as soon as possible if required to leave St. John's (N.F.) 29/11. PRIMROSE Asdic set out of action.*(ST. LAURENT 1055Z/12 to C.C.N.F.).
* Weather report.

St Thomas
St. Lucia,
bunkers.

Admty. 1958B/26/7 diverted Lagos ships for U.K. bunkering at St. Lucia and St. Thomas should only lift sufficient coal to reach Hampton Roads where major quantity should be taken. Since then St. Thomas and St. Lucia have both reported that situation will allow larger quantities to be lifted there. C.in C. A.W.I. 1222Q/25/9, R.N.O. St. Lucia 1211Q/20/10 and R.N.O.St. Thomas 1011/11 /11 refer. This would allow voyages to be shortened by about 2 days by omitting calling at Hampton Roads. It is suggested the R.N.O's at these 2 ports should be given discretion to bunker ships accordingly when stocks of coal permit and re-route ships so as to omit Hampton Roads in these cases. (C.in C.A.W.I. 1102Q/12 to Admty.).

~~Suez~~
~~Red Sea~~
~~Command.~~

~~My 1819B/18/10. The following changes are coming~~ into force 0900B/13:-
Para 2. The port of Suez is to be included in Red Sea Command. Para 8. N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O.I.C. Red Sea of all ports and anchorages in the Gulf of Suez, including anchorage J, and of the local defence craft in these ports. Any question which affects both authorities will continue to be dealt with by C.in C. Med.
~~(C.in C. Med. 1155B/12 to Med. Stn.).~~

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

C.T.7. — Your 1301/11. Opnav regret unable to provide escort. (ii) Further signal will be made referring to para 2 of my 1939/1/10. (B.A.D. 1303R/12 to Admty.).

Ships for Archangel WAZIRISTAN. — Your 1700Z/10. Confirmed that minimum speed of 8½ knots is necessary for all ships for Archangel. If WAZIRISTAN is loading she should be accepted. M.W.T. is communicating with Sparks to ensure this does not recur. (D.T.D. 1431A/12 to N.C.S.O. New York).

Convoys Sydney C.B. — Hoped to continue assembling S.C. convoys at Sydney until about 15/1/1942 or slightly later if ice conditions permit. Thereafter S.C. and H.X. convoys will both be assembled at Halifax. Question of using Shelbourne as an auxiliary assembly port as a standby for certain ships of both H.X. and S.C. convoys to relieve strain on Halifax is under active consideration. Dormant plans are also being prepared for use of Saint Margaret's Bay, Nova Scotia, as an emergency anchorage for turned back convoys or in the event of Halifax being temporarily blocked. Every effort is however being made to avoid drawing any attention to this anchorage until and unless it is required. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1508Z/12 to Admty.).

DIDO morale of ships' company in U.S.A. — Your 1308/3. Urgent need for replacement of damaged units of Mediterranean Fleet, particularly A/A cruisers, does not allow DIDO to return to U.K. for leave, observing also that she has only been abroad since April 1941.
2. When replying to Admty. 1732/10/10 DIDO should include alternative proposal for proceeding direct to Gibraltar after working up. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1552A/12 to B.A.R.M.).

BARFLEUR SHEHERAZADE MEROPE (French). — X.C.L. BARFLEUR will operate in waters around Martinique 12-14/11. A.O. SHEHERAZADE left Fort De France 10/11 for Mobile in ballast. A.O. MEROPE left Coatzcoalcos 9/11 for Puerto Tarafa. (Opnav 1608Z/12 to Admty.).

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

LIVERPOOL. Left Colon 1600R/12.
(N.C.S.O. Colon 1631/12 to Admty.).

Dakar
Casablanca
Intelligence. Dakar. 10/11. A.1. The French ships RHEA, GABRIAL, GUISTHAU, AISNE and FORT DE VAUX left on 8/11 en route for Madagascar. Casablanca 11/11. A.1. Arrivals 29/10. French CADUBEC. Arrivals 30/10. Portuguese QUANZA, ALFERRAREDE and NEREIDA. Arrivals 30/10. Spanish SAC 9.
(B.A.D. 1637R/12 to S.O.I. Freetown).

FORMALHAUT
ERIDAN. My 1521/31. Dakar 10/11. A.1. FORMALHAUT and ERIDAN returned Dakar from sea 10/11.
(B.A.D. 1703R/12 to Admty. etc.).

CLARKIA. C.in C. America and West Indies 1652Q/11. Can CLARKIA be taken in hand in U.S.A. for docking for examination and repair of damage due to grounding?
(2) B.A.D. Washington is requested to pass C.in C. A.W.I. 1652Q/11 to B.A.R.M. for information.
(D.O.D.(F) 1724A/12 to B.A.R.M.

St. Thomas
fuel. Your 1011/11. This is appreciated. Tonnage that would be required to replace coal stocks is being employed to better effect however and this is considered to counter-balance the shortening of the voyage obtained by bunkering to capacity.
(D.T.D. 1754A/12 to N.C.S.O. St. Thomas).

Panama
ships,
routes and
escorts. Navy Dept. intends to consult you through Spenavo about route and escort for Panamanian Flag ships on passage to and from Archangel. Origin of enquiry was the approach by Maritime Commission to Shipping Mission to obtain assurance that ships would be escorted both ways and not delayed. It is alleged that S.S. COCKLE has been delayed for several weeks in Iceland and 2 ships are believed to have loaded at Archangel for discharge in U.K. Request information of present Archangel convoy arrangements. Admty. pass to M. of W.T. London.
(B.A.D. 1759R/12 to Admty.).

SURCOUF.....

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

SURCOUF. Newport sailed French Cruiser Submarine SURCOUF.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa,1800Z/12, to Admty.)

U.S. and Convoy Escorts. My 1939/1/10. Para. 2. Navy Dept., now states verbal undertaking to provide U.S. escorts for British troop convoys applied only to large movements which they understood would occur about every three months. This undertaking will be implemented when sufficient escorts are available but as long notice as possible is requested.
(ii) U.S. Authorities are unable to provide escort for single ships as requested your 1301A/11 or for frequent small troop convoys. The only solution they can suggest is that such ships should join regular mercantile convoys if R.N. escort for whole passage is not available.
(B.A.D., 1801R/12 to Admty.)

St. John's N.F. PRINCE HENRY. Your 1052/9. Regretted that withdrawal of FORTH from St. John's N.F. has led to a serious and immediate shortage of accommodation there. In consequence PRINCE HENRY has been diverted to act as depot ship until the Naval Barracks have been completed in January.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1846Z/12 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

LORRAINE. ? Battleship or Tanker. Washington 11/11 A.1.
French Battleship LORRAINE at instigation of Armistice Commission has been ordered to return to Casablanca.
(B.A.D., 2001R/12, to S.O.I., Freetown.)
Comment by N.I.D.
French Battleship LORRAINE is at Alexandria. This undoubtedly refers to Tanker LORRAINE which left Casablanca on 8/11, for an unknown destination.

Opnav and Convoy Routes. In order to expedite convoy dispatch traffic in future Opnav will reply to Admiralty proposed convoy routeing in plain English, viz., affirmative or negative, without mentioning convoy designation. Example:-
(Your dispatch 1926A/10, affirmative.)
(Opnav, 2045Z/12 to Admty.)

/T.C.16.....

MOST SECRET.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

T.C.16. Your 2039A/6. Sparks report:
1. CUBA date can be maintained.
2. GEORGE WASHINGTON, British Flag, cannot be expected at Halifax complete with cargo and ready before 20/12 at the earliest.
3. LETITIA if loaded New York arrives Halifax ready 10/12. If cargo omitted or to be loaded Halifax could arrive Halifax 6th or 7/12.
4. (2) and (3) dates indefinite and subject to dockyard conditions and progress.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2049Z/12, to D. of S.T.)

Australia.

AQUITANIA. My 0457Z/10, AQUITANIA is now required to call Sydney en route for Wellington. Request vessel arrive Sydney not later than 0600K/14/12.
(A.C.N.B., 1022Z/12, to R.A.Malaya.)

New Zealand.

Unidentified vessels. Coast watching Station Niuato batabu 200 miles north of Tonga reported at 1940Z/10 light cruiser bearing S.S.W. 20 miles. (Description) Course N.N.W. High Speed. Graded B.2. Confirmation given in 0025Z/12. C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet has been asked if this was U.S. Warship. (2) Unidentified vessel probably tanker also sighted 1740Z/9 by Niuatobatabu (description Graded B.2.
(S.O.(I)Wallington 0354Z/12, to C.O.I.S. Singapore.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CASTILLO OROPESA. (torpedoed 8/11.)

No British S/M was within 100 miles of Melilla at the time of the incident. (Admiralty announcement, 12/11, The Times 13/11.)
Your 1843/11. Confirmed no British or Allied submarine operating in that area.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1820A/12, to N.A. Madrid.)

LARPOOL. (torpedoed 1/11.)

British, 3872 tons, now known to have been torpedoed or sunk, probably on 3/11, while bound from London for Demerara with a general cargo. She was a straggler from Convoy O.N.F.27. Master and 5 survivors, all suffering from exposure, landed at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, on 10/11. (D.S., 799, 12/11.) Left Loch Ewe 18/10 in Convoy O.N.F.27. (D.O.R. 12/11.)
Revised date 1/11 - (see 16/11.)

Unknown ship.? PERU.

Following has been read:-
Freetown W/T from Ascension W/T SSSS 2° 15' N., 12° 20' W.
(Freetown T.O.R. 1733Z/12, to Whitehall.)
Freetown W/T from Ascension. Following read - Correction to SSSS T.O.R. 1733Z/12. SSSS de GUWX (Signal letters undecipherable in War Registry.) 1° 15' N., 12° 28' W.
(Freetown, T.O.R. 1933/12 to Whitehall.)
Was from British PERU, 6961 tons, independent from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., left Capetown 31/10. See South Atlantic 1645/14 and D.S.802.

Submarines Reported.

0745.

By Pan American A/C. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1152C/12, etc.) See America & West Indies.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1357A/12, 1401A/12.)

1048A.

A/C returning Gibraltar, report sighting large submarine at 1048A/12 stationary heading 100° in 036° 32' N., 003° 23' W.
(P.O.C.N.A., 1526A/12, to S.O. Force H., 200 Group, 1830/12 to A.M.)

1733Z.

Ref. Admty., message A.F., position 0 1° 15' N., 12° 28.5' W.
(C. in C.S.A., 1733Z/12, to Admty.)
(See Ships Attacked.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.11.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By ROSELYS (corvette.) — Contacted. Am attacking, position 055° 08'N., 050° 30' W.
(ROSELYS, 1220A/12, to Capt. D. Greenock.)

By ENCHANTRESS ABERDEEN. — ENCHANTRESS, ABERDEEN made 5 attacks on confirmed Asdic contact in 052° 30' N., 022° 47' W., at 1430 G.M.T./12. Result unknown. Area searched without result. Escort rejoining Convoy before dark.
(IBIS, 1600Z/12, to C. in C.W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

One enemy aircraft dropped 2 bombs near Nolso Lighthouse (Faeroes) at 1209. No damage was caused.

Mining.

Mines, probably laid 6/7 Nov. were detonated in the Thames Estuary today, one of which damaged M.M.S.44.

Dutch S.S. JOMA was sunk today in Falmouth harbour, presumably by an old mine.

Walton Bay Anchorage (Bristol Channel) was reopened at 1031A.

North Atlantic.

Vichy Warships. -RICHELIEU and JEAN BART are not to be allowed to enter the Mediterranean, since they might be completed at Toulon.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Sink at sight policy. Revised instructions for sinking at sight in the Mediterranean were issued by the Admiralty today.

Operation "Perpetual" ARK ROYAL sunk. ARK ROYAL was damaged, apparently by torpedo from a U-boat at 1541 today in position reported to be 36° 3' N. 4° 45' W. and sank in tow early on 14/11. There was only one casualty, and 10 Swordfish and 4 Fulmars were flown off to Gibraltar. Force H. had noted an underwater explosion, thought to be a torpedo exploding at the end of its run, at 0410 today in 36° 25' N. 1° 15' W., but A/S search produced no result. MALAYA, ARGUS and HERMIONE arrived at Gibraltar at 2100A today.

Suez. The port of Suez is included in Red Sea Command from 0900B/13. N.O.I.C. Suez is to be in command under F.O.C. Red Sea of all ports and anchorages in the Gulf of Suez and of the local defence craft.

Libya and Western Desert. 13 Wellingtons attacked targets at Benghazi last night and one at Derna.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Stores for 1st M/S Flotilla.

Obtain copies of M.S.1 21350/7th November to Admiralty and Admiralty 1309A/12 November to A.C.O.S., and arrange shipment of the stores required by M.S.1 in HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER if top weight allow. Alternatively they can be shipped in cruiser which will call Scapa before escorting P.Q.5. Inform M.S.1 of arrangements made.
(C. in C. H.F. 0927Z/13 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Ferry boats and crane lighters for Turkey.

Your 0051A/11. Following from F.O.I.C. Greenock begins.
Your 1215/11/11. Ferries are similar to two others which completed this voyage successfully about nine months ago. The Captain of one of these first pair is now in charge of CARDAK. He anticipates no special difficulty and expects to average about 7 knots in fine weather. He is very definite however that his vessel is incapable of rendering assistance such as towing to the Crane Lighter if the latter needs this. As regards the Crane Lighter, I should regard an ocean voyage with extreme misgiving, in view of the route to be taken. When designed I assume that a coastal voyage through the Mediterranean in summer was in mind. Under present conditions I should not expect this vessel to reach her destination. T.O.O.1509A/12 Ends. I concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1010A/13 to Adty.)

Admiral Muselier.

Admiral Muselier wishes to see something of the working of Free French ships on trans-Atlantic Convoy service and to make contact with F.F. Naval representatives in Halifax and St. Johns, N.F. 2. I propose -
A. that Admiral Muselier accompanied by two staff officers should embark in a F.F. Corvette probably COMMANDANT DETROYAT forming part of the escort of an O.N. convoy, leaving U.K. about 25/11.
B. that after the meet this Corvette should be diverted to Iceland; and C. that he should then embark in a F.F. corvette of the Newfoundland Escort Force on escort duty to St. Johns, N.F.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange a programme.
4. Admiral Muselier would return by air as convenient.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1314A/13)

MOST SECRET.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Archangel shipping facilities.

Following from S.B.N.O. Archangel is passed to you for information and for Navy Dept. begins:- (Text of S.B.N.O. Archangel's 2344/11.) Ends.
(D.O.D. H. 1230A/13 to B.A.D. Washington.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Charts of Norwegian Coasts.

My 1358C/15/9 and your 1423A/22/9.
Charts have not been received and S.B.N.O. Archangel reports no trace there and suggests they were sent in error to Moscow with Beaverbrook mission. Request repeat folios may be sent as opportunity offers.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1905C/13 to Adty.)

Defence of U.K.

B.3. Defence.

Reference A.L.B.D. 01748/41 of 29.10.41.
Request B.D.O. Gosport may lay 200 yds of B.3 defence and Captain of VERNON collaborate in providing depth charges to develop the best means of sabotaging such defences. This work is to be given the highest priority.
(D.B.D. 2015A/13 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Movements.

CAIRO.

Sailed CAIRO to carry-out (corrupt group) N.O.I.C. Cardiff 1628/11. E.T.A. Barry Roads 1800/13. N.O.I.C. Cardiff is requested to issue necessary instructions.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1015A/13.)

KENYA.
BEDOUIN.
INTREPID.

Seidis Fiord sailed BEDOUIN, INTREPID at 0330Z, KENYA at 1100Z.
(C.S. 10 1100Z/13.)

RORQUAL (Operation F.B.34.)
WHITE BEAR
UNA.

(i) Intend to sail RORQUAL escorted by WHITE BEAR at 0800A/14 for 270°. Wolf Rock 3 miles, E.T.A. 1900A/15.
(ii) thence WHITE BEAR proceeds to Falmouth to await Escort Duty with UNA.
(iii) thence RORQUAL to Bay of Biscay for operation F.B.34.
(iv) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation.
(Capt. S.3. 1135A/13 and 1607A/13.)

/0.9 ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

0.9. 0.10. Z.5.	At 2200A/16 intend to sail 0.9 escorted by T/B Z.5 from Rothesay through Sounds of Islay and Mull to arrive together at 1630A/17. S. of A. 9 knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. Cmdre. WESTERN ISLES is requested subsequently to sail 0.10 escorted by Z.5 to Rothesay. (Capt. S.7. 1151A/13.)
NORFOLK.	Scapa arrival from Reykjavik NORFOLK. (A.C.O.S. 1239A/13.)
51st M/S Group.	A.M. 1955A/12. Intend to sail 51st M/S Group early next week. (V.A. Dover 1335A/13.)
SUNFISH.	Sheerness. Departure Tug STALWART towing SUNFISH escorted by HOLDERNESS at 1150. (C. in C. Nore 1354A/13.)
P.39	Intend to sail P.39 escorted by MOLDE for Clyde 0830A/15. E.T.A. 0815A/16. (N.O.I.C. Barrow 1529A/13.)
PRINCE LEOPOLD.	Admiralty 1551A/12 and V.A.C.T.C. 1001A/13. Propose sailing PRINCE LEOPOLD for Portsmouth at 1400A/18 at 16 knots so as to arrive eastern end of Q.Z.S.169 at 0800A/20. Request surface escort if considered necessary. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1548A/13.)
CELIA WINDERMERE.	Return to Reykjavik. (A.C.I.C. 1650N/13 to CELIA, WINDERMERE.)
WITHERINGTON.	My 1113A/23/10 and C. in C. W.A. 1458A/23/10. Intend to postpone departure of WITHERINGTON until preliminary H.A. and L.A. practices, which have been delayed by weather, have been carried out. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1723A/13.)
RESOLUTION.	A.M. 1645A/8. Anticipate sailing RESOLUTION p.m./ 24th. (C. in C. Plymouth 1756/13.)

Your 1311A/13. My P.C.S. 052° 23' N. 027° 32' W. 142°, 12 knots. HONEYSUCKLE, GENTIAN and ACANTHUS in company. (MYOSOTIS 1800Z/13.)

/JAY ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. Contd.

JAY. Your 1356/9 and A.M. 1249/11/10. JAY should be sailed with the next pair of similar vessels routed via Azores.
(D.O.D. F. 1844A/13 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

TUNA. My 1554A/13. TUNA and HIBISCUS approx. position. Amend to read 059° 30' N. 004° 30' W.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2036A/13.)

UNA. (1) Leave patrol after dark 14th diving by day through 048° N. 007° W. to R/V WHITE BEAR in 250° Trevose Head 10 miles at 0800A/18.
(2) Lights as follows.
(3) S.B.R. as follows.
(4) T.B.R. as follows.
(5) RORQUAL pass Wolf Rock at 1900A/15.
routed to Bay of Biscay.
(Capt. S.3. 2343A/13 to UNA.)

Operations.

Patrols. 2 M.G.Bs patrolling near 5 buoy will be 5 miles clear to Eastward by 0300/13th. 2 other M.G.Bs patrolling 286 A.M.Q.Z.S.South of 5 buoy will also be clear of channel. All boats return to Yarmouth and Lowestoft at daylight.
(C. in C. Nore 0047A/13 to WOLSEY, etc.)
3 A/S Trawlers patrolling QZS.271, Patrol is to return to the Westward in longitude of Beachy Head by 0200/14.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1523A/13.)
3 M.Ls 10 miles S. of Portland Bill.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1843A/13.)
Sailed ECHO for Hvalfiord at 0830/13.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1115A/13.)

Exercise L.9 No.6 Commando should embark in PRINCE CHARLES and PRINCE ALBERT on 15/11.
The ships when ready should be sailed for Inverary where they should carry out exercises under their own officers with the troops embarked.
The landing craft required for these exercises will be 4 A.L.C. 3 R. Boats and 1 S.L.C. per ship.
(Adviser of Combined Operations 1346A/13 to V.A.C. T.C.)

A/S Trials. C.A.S.E.E's No.D.4898 of 8th November.
Area allocated for trials is a circle radius 5 miles, centre 57° 20' N. 11° 30' W.
Capt. S.7 is requested to detail S/M and arrange T.B.R. C.A/S.E.E. is to make all necessary arrangements for trials, keeping authorities informed. (C. in C. W.A. 1805A/13.)

/Enemy ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - contd.

Enemy plotted. Doubtful plot position 085° Start 15 at 1256, course 240°. Speed 8 knots. Proceed to 106°. Start 8 to intercept.
(Dartmouth Port Wave 2515/13 to M.Ls 270, 153, 159.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Faroes bombed. One enemy A/C dropped two bombs near Nolso Lighthouse at 1209 today. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1255A/13.)

MONMOUTH COAST. attacked. Naval Control Cork report S.S. MONMOUTH COAST attacked by 2 aeroplanes at 1800/12 one mile south of Read Head, Waterford. Skipper of Belgian trawler EXOUS reports at Cork seeing one plane crash.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2016A/13.)

BEN SCREEL. (Trawler) attacked. BEN SCREEL attacked by enemy aircraft p.m./12 with bombs, machine gun, and cannon. One near miss and one U.X.B. which bounced off the compass. Skipper slightly injured. Position in neighbourhood of Berwick Fishing grounds, weather rough. BEN SCREEL has now returned to Tyne. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 2236/13.)

DAGNY. (Swedish, 809 Tons.) damaged. DAGNY proceeding independently was attacked at 1800/8 by one A/C 5 miles north of Aberdeen inshore route. 9 bombs dropped from 200 feet all near misses. No W/T, no armament. Slight damage to hull and engine.
(N.O.I.C. Sunderland 2245/13.)

Mining.

Walton Bay. My 1201A/9. Walton Bay anchorage now open.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1031A/13.)

N.L.5. Intend to carry out operation N.L.5 tonight.
(V.A. Dover 1117A/13.)

Q.K.4. Weather permitting carry out operation Q.K.4 tonight. Details as ordered in my 1042A/14/10 except that Q.K.4 is main objective.
(C. in C. Nore 1142A/13 to BEEHIVE.)

/M.M.S.44 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

M.M.S.44 damaged.	M.M.S.44 damaged by near mine at 0825/13 in 104° Warp Bucy 1.23 miles. One rating injured. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1256/13 and 1643/13.)
Thames Estuary.	1 S.A. Mine detonated at 0050/13, and 3 Magnetic Mines at 0128/13, 0825/13, and 0840/13 respectively. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1643/13.)
JOMA. (Dutch, 372 Tons.) sunk.	JOMA sunk in Falmouth Harbour presumed by old mine. Casualties 3 missing, 2 injured. Names. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1741/13.)
Harwich.	At 1210/13 one S.A. mine detonated by Sweeper in 51° 46' 6" N. 1° 15' 12" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1829A/13.)
Mine off Peterhead.	Drifting Mine reported by SLEIPNER in 57° 29' N. 1° 34' W. at 1205/13. (C. in C. Rosyth 1650/13.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Destroyers.	BB 5 unidentified destroyers 43° 30' N. 1° 55'W (sic) course 270°, 15 knots. (A/C Duty B. Group 19 0905/13.)

Navigational.

E. Buoy.	E. Buoy Light extinguished. (WINCHESTER 0215A/13.)
Gap A.	Request that a trial may be conducted with a S/M from the 9th S/M Flotilla to determine whether the accuracy of Red Head W/T Beacon is sufficient to permit Gap "A" being restricted to fifteen miles in width. (F.O.S. 1303A/13 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
29 Buoy.	SLEIPNER reports 29 Buoy probably missing. F.O.I.C. Aberdeen is requested to arrange for the recovery of this Buoy. (C. in C. Rosyth 1350/13.)
Ice in North Atlantic.	Ice R/C 13/11. (A.C.I.C. 2106N/13.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

KEPPEL. — KEPPEL arrived with collision damage. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0915A/13)
Intend sailing KEPPEL for Newport at 0800A/14. E.T.A. 1200A/15. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1906A/13).

VENOMOUS (collision 11/11) — Your 0509A/13. Rescue tug MASTODONTE will be sailed for Loch Ewe about 1830 today with divers equipment and Admiralty salvage personnel. MARAUDER is to stand by VENOMOUS until relieved by MASTODONTE. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1203A/13)

LARS KRUSE. — 434 tons cargo discharged from S.S. LARS KRUSE today. Hove vessel 40 feet in shore at high water tonight.
(Admty. Salvage Officer, Sheerness, 2120/13)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.12 Z.
W.S.14
ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — Anchor S.8 Berth 158° 7.7 cables from Great Castle Head Lower Light. Oiler and water boat will be placed alongside you after anchor. 2 destroyers may fuel at the same time other side of oiler, third destroyer anchor as convenient clear of swept channel. Area South of S.4. and S.5. is to be avoided. S.O. will board you with secret hand message.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0221A/13 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)
C. in C. S.A. 1632/8. Sailed ROYAL SOVEREIGN, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FURY.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1740A/13)

O.N.S.35. — BROADWAY and corvettes cannot arrive before late p.m./14. (A.C.I.C., 0945N/13)
Position 061° 45' N., 029° 50' W.
(BROADWAY, 1740Z/13).

S.L.92.
(BRADFORD). — Cancel my 1806A/12.
(C. in C. W.A., 1002A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Did Norwegian and Stragglers rejoin.
(C. in C. W.A., 1102A/13 to VANOC)
Your 1102A/13. The following absent on turning over, TONGARIRO, FORDSDALE, HOEGH SCOUT, ATHELVIKING, EL ALMIRANTE, BRITISH COMMODORE, POLARSOL, RANJA, EMPIRE MASEFIELD.
(VANOC, 1145A/13, to C. in C. W.A.)

/BB...

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

B.B.9100 — Intend to sail S.A. LL Trawlers ORPHEUS, (BELGINA), BEN BRAC, and PEKEN for Swansea in BB 9100. PEKEN has defective DG. (N.O.I.C. Holyhead, 1247A/13)

U.S. Escorts for Troop Convoys. — B.A.D. Washington's 1303R/12 para.2. Following has been received. Begins:- Navy Dept. now states verbal undertaking to provide U.S. escorts for British troop convoys applied only to large troop movements which they understood would occur about every three months. This undertaking will be implemented when sufficient escorts are available but as long notice as possible is requested.
2. U.S. Authorities are unable to provide escorts for single ships as requested your 1301A/11 or for frequent small troop convoys. The only solution they can suggest is that such ships should join regular mercantile convoys if R.N. escort for whole passage is not available. T.O.O. 1801R/12. Ends.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1315A/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

LANAHRONE. — N.C.S.O. Barry 1006A/7.
S.S. LANAHRONE was sighted by 19 Group aircraft in 49° 27' N., 09° 51' W. at 1358/12, course 180°
2. Request owners be informed that departure from agreed route may lead to ship being attacked in mistake for an enemy vessel.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1336/13).

Convoy "Cargo". — All ships arrived.
(D.T.D., 1621Z/13 to Opnav-).

W.N.4. — Sheltering Thurso Bay.
(A.C.O.S., 1624A/13).

S.C.51 — Met as arranged. One straggler ahead, all ships now arrived.
(D.T.D., 1858A/13 to Opnav).

MOST SECRET.

1

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

DULVERTON.
SOUTHWOLD.

Request arrangements may be made for DULVERTON and SOUTHWOLD to fuel Ponta Delgada on 18/11. Amount required 250 tons for each ship. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0048A/13 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

Vichy Ships, Policy.

Your submission X 222/345 dated 25/8 and para. 1 of A.T. 1548/31/10. Decision on B is as follows:-
B. Vichy Surface Warships.
(i) General. As stated by you, but after words "prevent it" add "but it is hoped this may be avoided".
(ii) Particular. (a) RICHELIEU and JEAN BART are also not to be allowed to proceed into Mediterranean since we do not wish them to proceed to Toulon where they might be completed. If met, and they appear to have this intention, action is to be taken as at B (i).
(b) DUNKERQUE. The instructions in my 2028 of 27/4 1941, stand. (Head of M. Approved 1st Lord, 0049A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

IMPERIALIST.

Departure IMPERIALIST for Y.3.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0841A/13 to Admty.)

FURY.
FORESIGHT.
FORESTER.

FURY, FORESIGHT and FORESTER expect to arrive Ponta Delgada 19/11 for fuel. Amount required for each ship 450 tons. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1050A/13 to F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

Rescue Tug, Azores.

Your 1051/1. Can attitude of Portuguese Naval Authorities now be stated. (Head of M. 2047A/13 to N.A. Lisbon) Reply: 1215/14.

Operation "Perpetual".

Arrival MALAYA, ARGUS, HERMIONE.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2100A/13 to Admty.)

/ARK.....

MOST SECRET.

1

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

ARK ROYAL torpedoed.

Heavy explosion in ARK ROYAL. Disabled in 036° 03' N. 004° 045° (As decyphered ? 045') W. (S.O. Force H., 1602A/13 to Admty.)
My 1602A/13. ARK ROYAL has list 15° to starboard. Tug and all available A/S craft being sent to assist. Cause not certain, probably torpedo. (F.O. Force H., 1621A/13 to Admty.)
All officers and men except Captain and 50 embarked in LEGION. HERMIONE and four destroyers circling and dropping depth charges. Ship stopped and badly listed. (Capt. D. 19, 1720/13 to Gibraltar W/T).
Am returning to ARK ROYAL in SIKH leaving Gibraltar about 1830. (S.O. Force H., 1725A/13 to Admty.)
LAFOREY reports ARK ROYAL stopped (heavy) list. All officers and men embarked LEGION except Captain and 50. (S.O. Force H., 1737A/13 to Admty.)
My 1602A/13. Steam being raised in one engine. Starboard boiler room flooded, water rising centre boiler room. One destroyer alongside providing electric power. List 20° not increasing appreciably. (S.O. Force H., 1813A/13 to Admty.)
ARK ROYAL torpedoed at 1543 in position 097° Europa Point 99' (or 29' corrupt) still afloat. 2 Catalinas of 202 Squadron, 1 Catalina 209 Squadron, 2 Fulmars, 3 Swordfish 807 Squadron, A/S escort ARK ROYAL 1600 to dusk. 2 Catalinas remaining until ARK ROYAL closes Gibraltar. (200 Group, 1830/13 to Air Min.)
My 1602A/13. ARK ROYAL in tow of 2 tugs, proceeding at 2 knots. (S.O. Force H., 2059A/13 to Admty.)
P.C. and S. of ARK ROYAL at 2010A, 036° 04' N. 004° 40' W. 270° 2 knots. Establish A/S patrol 5 miles astern of ARK ROYAL closing to her at daylight. (S.O. Force H., 2132A/13 to RHODODENDRON, MARIGOLD, PENSTEMON).
Establish B Patrol. Join ARK ROYAL at Daylight. (S. O. Force H., 2224/13 to D.S. ISAAC SWEERS).

/Have.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ARK ROYAL torpedoed - Contd.

Have left ARK ROYAL who has steam in one boiler raising steam in second boiler and (?one) dynamo. Hopes to be able to steam shortly. No more tugs required until off harbour. List (? to Starboard) 014°. Draft forward (?32) feet, flooded compartments held. (Capt. D.19, 2224/13 to S.O. Force H., ZULU)
My 1602. Steam raised in one boiler and raising steam 2nd boiler. Hope can steam shortly. List reduced (?½?) degree. Flooding under control. (2) When torpedoed ARK ROYAL was second ship in line with HERMIONE and screen of destroyers in screening diagram 7 A. ARGUS reported subsequently periscope sighted. No A/S contact obtained. (S.O. Force H., 2359A/13 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

BURDWAN.

Overdue shipping. BURDWAN due Capetown 10th from Freetown not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0915B/13 to Admty. etc.)

AUSTRALIA.

C. in C. E.I. 0800/11 para. 3 and my 1025/12. AUSTRALIA is to proceed to East London for (? arranged) refit and subsequently to sail from there so as to arrive at Simonstown 0700B/29. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0953Z/13.)

CINCINNATI
JOUETT.

To depart Pernambuco 13/11, reaching 15° N. 26° W. on 18/11 thence returning Pernambuco to arrive 23/11. B.A.D. pass to Opnav. (D.O.D. (F) 1005A/13 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D., repeated B.A.D.)

/LOURENCO ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

LOURENCO MARQUES (Portuguese) German passengers.	Two Germans allowed to embark S.S. LOURENCO MARQUES due at Freetown 19/11, one Mannardt old and infirm other Noelke needing treatment unobtainable here. Latter accompanied by wife. Suggest keen search for correspondence. Many Germans on board S.S. before departure. Much correspondence handed to passengers. (Consul Gen, Loanda T.H.I. 1150/13 to S.O.I. Freetown).
PHOEBE stores.	BURRA about to sail from Lagos has stores for PHOEBE. Should these continue to Alexandria? (C. in C. S.A., 1211N/13 to C. in C. Med.) Reply: Yes. (C. in C. Med., 1820B/15).
"Bellringer" Convoy, Vichy escort.	Following is repetition of my 1230/12. (Begins) Message 1521/31 from B.A.D., Washington. 3rd Officer of COMPIEGNE states that "Bellringer" convoy was to R/V and exchange escort with convoy of 12 merchant ships from Dakar escorted by French Battle Cruiser STRASBOURG and 2 modern submarines. Graded by S.O.I. Capetown C.3. (ends). (S.O.I. Capetown, 1238B/13 to C. in C. S.A.) N.I.D. comment. Washington reported 1521/31/10 that two merchant vessels FOMALHAUT and ERIDAN left Dakar 26/10 for Madagascar escorted by a sloop and two S/M's. These two vessels have since returned to Dakar. According to latest information battle cruiser STRASBOURG is at Toulon.
CARNARVON CASTLE. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. DERBYSHIRE.	Your 1607B/12 and DUNNOTTAR CASTLE's 0925/12. In view of state and low speed of DUNNOTTAR CASTLE suggest following arrangements (1) CARNARVON CASTLE due Simonstown 20/11 to escort ORMONDE (2) DUNNOTTAR CASTLE to be taken in hand for engine repairs. (3) DERBYSHIRE on completion engine overhaul 22/11 to be available for patrol and subsequently as escort for W.S.12X and W.S.12Z. Request your remarks and anticipated ?time for repairs to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. (C. in C. S.A. 1301N/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/Petrol.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.11.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

Petrol for Lati at C. Verde Is.

Following received begins - S.O.(I) Freetown from B.C. St. Vincent my 1517/3. Spanish sailing ship mentioned in my telegram ordered to proceed Janta Maria but did not go. Discharged cargo into S.M. PEDROLUME. Drum floated ashore. Spanish sailing ship cleared and sailed for unknown destination a.m./12. Fine £500 rumoured to have been paid. Please repeat to Admiralty. B.C. T.O.O. 0859/12. Ends. (C. in C. S.A. 1318N/13 to Admty.)

BRADFORD CITY. (torpedoed 1/11)

My 1613/11. All crew of BRADFORD CITY now rescued. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1540B/13 to Admty.).

Whalers.

Your 2220/10. Vestfold Whalers already sailed in pairs for South Georgia with instructions to refuel and proceed in pairs to Capetown. They have taken only 22 extra men. (N.C.S.O. Montevideo, 1732/13 to Admty.)

French naval units.

METER. My 1521/31 and my 1703/12. Dakar 12/11 A.1. Sloop, believed to be D'ENTRECASTEAUX has also returned but not submarines GLORIEUX and HEROS. (B.A.D. Washington 1757R/13).

Mediterranean.

Mediterranean sink at sight Policy.

The following revised instructions have been agreed with Air Ministry and replace all those previously issued.

1. The following are the limits of the areas in the Mediterranean which have been declared dangerous to shipping:-

(a) All waters within 30 miles of any Italian territory;

(b) The Adriatic Sea;

(c) The Aegean Sea, excluding Turkish territorial waters;

(d) That part of the Mediterranean Sea (excluding Tunisian and Turkish territorial waters) lying south of 41° 18' N. and East of the line drawn from a position 3 miles 360° from Cape Bon (37° 08' N. 11° 04' E. approx.) to a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia and thence at a distance of 30 miles from the west coast of Sardinia to the latitude of 41° 18'.

/2....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Mediterranean sink at sight Policy - Contd.

2. Subject to the provisions of para. 3, submarines surface ships and aircraft are authorised to attack at sight all ships sighted within the above areas. In addition they may attack by night all ships within Tunisian territorial waters south of lat. 35° 46' N. By day French coastal traffic including traffic to the islands off the Tunisian Coast should not be attacked.
3. The following also should not be attacked -
(a) Turkish coastal traffic which in some areas owing to navigational difficulties, proceeds outside territorial waters;
(b) Turkish vessels trading to Egyptian, Syrian and Palestinian ports provided that they adhere to the route ordered by C. in C. Med.
(c) Ships carrying approved cargoes on behalf of the Swiss to Genoa, provided they adhere to the route ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
(d) Vichy warships, unless they are encountered within the areas defined in para. 1 and N. and E. of a line drawn from a point 30 miles 180° from Cape Spartivento in Sardinia to Marsala in Sicily and thence to the Libyan-Tunis boundary. When to the N. and E. of this line they should be sunk.
4. Except in the territorial waters of Spain or Spanish possessions, ships definitely identified as enemy may be attacked wherever found inside the Mediterranean, whether or not they are within the areas defined in para. 1 above. This permission extends to the territorial waters of Turkey, Metropolitan France (including Corsica) and French North Africa. When carrying out attacks inside Turkish territorial waters, care must be taken to avoid damage to persons or property ashore.
5. Attacks are not to be made within the Dardanelles Straits.
6. Naval authorities please pass to A.O.C. Malta, 200 Group and A.O.C. in C. M.E. as from Air Ministry. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0138A/13 to C. in C. Med, F.O.C.N.A.)

/UPHOLDER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

UPHOLDER. Their Lordships congratulate you, your officers and ship's company on your latest successes against enemy Naval units. These further convincing proofs of efficiency and keenness of the submarine under your command are noted with greatest satisfaction. (1st S.L., 0220A/13 to UPHOLDER).

W.S.12. Disposal instructions for troopships. (D. of S.T. 0450A/13 to P.S.T.O. Egypt) See Lion Copy.

JUPITER.
ENCOUNTER. Intended programme for JUPITER and ENCOUNTER

Port.	Arrive. Nov.	Leave. Nov.
Alexandria		15
Port Said	16	16
Suez	16	16
Aden	19	20
Colombo	26	27
Trincomalee	28	

(R.A.(D) Med. 1055B/13).

Convoy Action 9/11, enemy losses. Your 1605A/12 (N.T. in W.D).
(a) Force 'K' undoubtedly sank 2 destroyers and damaged a third in bridge structure.
(b) UPHOLDER damaged 1 destroyer at 0645/9 and sank a second at 1108/9. Former last seen by UPHOLDER in tow with stern underwater and fore foot out of water and considered unlikely to float.
(c) Aircraft R/C at 1325/9 sighted 2 cruisers and 4 destroyers and at 1341/9 a single destroyer 27 miles astern of them, all proceeding towards Messina.
(d) Nothing seen of damaged destroyer in tow and it is considered that single destroyer in para. (c) was destroyer which had been towing damaged destroyer and was rejoining after latter had sunk. (V.A. Malta 1121B/13 to Admty.)

Red Sea, control of Shipping. F.O. Red Sea assumes control of shipping in Red Sea and Gulf of Suez including Port Suez at 0900B/14 in accordance with C. in C. Med.'s 1226/12/10 para. 4 and 5.
(2) N.O's I/c Red Sea Ports and M. of W.T. M.E. are requested to address relevant signals to F.O. Red Sea directly after receipt of this signal. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1121B/13 to Admty.)

/Derna.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Derna, Berka, Bardia, Gazala, bombed.

Night 11/12, 30 Wellingtons operated, 25 bombed M.T. workshops and stores dumps at Derna, 4 bombed ordnance stores at Berka. 1 aircraft dropped bombs on Bardia causing violent explosions and fires at old electric power station. 6 Blenheims bombed M.T. repair shops at Derna, 6 Blenheims bombed M.T. and stores dumps on Gazala south landing ground. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1216/13.)

Operation "Perpetual".

37 Hurricanes flown off in company with 7 Blenheims from 037° 30' N. 004° 00' E. at 1015 and 1100 D.3. Strong westerly wind and conditions generally appeared favourable. Good take off and no delay. No reason can be given for failure of 3 Hurricanes to arrive.
(ii) Unable to deal with shadower D.2 on account of Hurricanes. On D.3 one interception in which BR.20 received good burst before disappearing into low cloud. Fulmar damaged by return fire. Enemy shadowers now work in pairs taking full anti R.D.F. precautions. R/C is effective and extends as far West as 003° E. Good visibility and low cloud assisted shadowers.
(iii) Underwater explosion at 0410 this morning in position 036° 25' N. 001° 15' W. probably torpedo exploding end of run. No (?A/S) contact or H.E. A.S.V. search by 6 Swordfish East of Alboran commencing 0645, no results.
(iv) Blenheims made excellent R/V with Force H. Inability of type 281 in MALAYA to receive I F F severe handicap.
(v) F.O.C.N.A. pass to Admiralty C. in C. Med. and V.A. Malta.
(S.O. Force H., 1247A/13 to Admty.)

ATLAS (German)

Left for Genoa about 2 A.M./13.
(Alicante, THI 1540/13 to Admty.)

LL Vessels.

Request immediate reply to my 1707/17/10 regarding M/S Groups 156 and 157. The renaming of M/S Vessels on passage to the Mediterranean is causing considerable confusion.
(C. in C. Med. 1621B/13 to Adty.)

/JUPITER ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

JUPITER. Your 0101/11. Original rivetting of JUPITER appears to have been poor workmanship and has given continual trouble.
(C. in C. Med. 1801B/13 to Adty.)

Movements. Summary No. 228. (C. in C. Med. 2015B/13.)
See Lion Copy.

Chrome Ore. (1) Turkish Gov. state that between now and end of December 3 Turkish vessels will load (?about) (?15,000) tons of Chrome Ore at Fethiye for discharge at Mersin or for direct transhipment there if possible into British or allied tonnage.
(2) I hope to obtain definite dates and tonnage shortly so that you can consider direct transhipment.
(3) If (?text of) American Neutrality Act is sufficiently amended it may be possible to send U.S. tonnage to (?corrupt group) to load direct for U.S. or even better to Fethiye and up to Marmora ports where stocks are probably 50,000 tons and 30,000 tons respectively.
(4) I have had conversation with U.S. Ambassador at Ankara who is cabling Washington direct on similar lines.
(5) Pass copy to C. in C. Med. and U.S. Maritime Commission.
(N.A. Angora, 1851B/13.)

Situation report 166. Western Desert. Supply of Tobruk resumes with ABDIEL and Destroyer carrying stores. Minor air raids on Tobruk and Mersa Matruh but no important damage.
2. Levant. Greek Destroyers and Corvettes continue escorting duties.
3. Red Sea. Suez Escort Force reduced to three sloops, CARLISLE and remainder having been withdrawn to Alexandria. ARPHA grounded on Towilla Reef p.m./6 after propeller shaft fractured, now in tow to Suez.
4. Submarines. UPHOLDER returned to Malta from Patrol. One destroyer and one U-Boat sunk, one Destroyer damaged, all already reported. *
5. THRASHER set schooner heavily on fire by gunfire at 0940/28 in 032.19 N. 020.10 E. cargo probably petrol.
(C. in C. Med. 2021B/13.) * W.D. Note.- Second destroyer considered to have sunk after being towed, see V.A. Malta 1121B/13.

/Malta ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Malta Fuel Supply.	Your 1921B/31/10. Your concern is fully shared by Their Lordships. 2. U.S.A. is being continually pressed for the loan of fast tankers, but so far refuses to part with them. 3. Your 1242/8 para. 3, concur. (Head of M. Approved by 4 S.L. 2103A/13 to C. in C. Med.)
UNIQUE, enemy units.	3 - 6 inch Cruisers approaching Benghazi through 032° 35' N. 019° 55' E. course and speed 170° 25 at 1200B/12. One M/V 4000 tons, one Destroyer entered Benghazi dawn/12, same route. Starboard main engine out of action, delayed 24 hours. (UNIQUE, 2213B/13 to V.A. Malta.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Redistribution of A.M.C's.

Your 1232/30/10.
(i) Is it still intended KANIMBLA should return to E.I. Station end of February. A.C.N.B. 0205/20/9 refers. (ii) Can an approx., date be given for arrival of CHITRAL, RANPURA, WORCESTERSHIRE, ALAUNIA on E.I. Station.
(C. in C.E.I., 0738Z/13, to Adty.)

Vichy Shipping, Intelligence.

Amplification of his 1750/10.
(C. in C.E.I., 0654/13 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

U.S.Ships and Mombasa.

C. in C.E.I., 0730/11. Request you will arrange for American ships to omit calling at Mombasa unless this is essential, in which case purpose for which ships are routed there should be passed to N.O.i/c Kilindini in advance, so as to avoid any delay on arrival.
(D.T.D. 1612A/13, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Ahwaz-Khorramshahr Railway.

Your 17552/Q of 11/11. Construction forthwith of standard gauge railway between Ahwaz and Khorramshahr is approved. Inform us what development if any is required to port at Khorramshahr and estimated cost, and indicate what reductions can be made in I.W.T. establishment proposals in your 16307/Q of 28/10 in view of above decision.
(W.O., 1925/13, to C. in C. India.)

Fairmile M/L's.

Your 17523/22/10. (N.T. in W.D.) Drawings and details of equipment required are being despatched by Air Mail.
2. Refitting facilities will only be required, however, in the event of a substantial increase in the number of Fairmile M.L's based in India and Ceylon.
3. All preliminary arrangements should be made, but work should not be put in hand pending further instructions, or until such an increase is imminent.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1939A/13 to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

BOGOTA.
(German.)

My 0334Z/11. German tanker may be BOGOT (?A) (84).
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0436Z/13, to Admty.)

Hong Kong.

Intelligence Report.
(G.O.C., Hong Kong 2141/13 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.

Vichy Ships. running blockade.

Following is in reply to Col. Off., 1646 to Gov. Straits Settlements and refers also to Adty.,1630/6. (ii) French shipping is not used for conveyance of essential commodities, e.g., cement and anthracite from Indo-China to Singapore. Neutral vessels are employed.
(iii) Indo-China has been Malaya's most reliable and cheapest provider of cement, but provided shipping can be made available from India or Australia there should be no difficulty in obtaining all requirements.
(iv) Anthracite presents greater difficulty as only alternative source of supply to Indo-China is South Wales involving a long sea (?journey.) Straits Trading Co., have 6 months supplies and are negotiating for further shipment within the next few days from Straits Settlements. Eastern Smelting Co., hold more.
(v) Min., of Shipping instructions in Adty., message quote It would appear preferable to leave the onus of denunciation to Indo-China. Unquote.
(vi) Governor Straits Settlements has been consulted and concurs.
(C. in C. China 0459Z/13 to Adty.)

America & West Indies.

T.C.16.

My 2049Z/12 para. 2. Following from Sparks (begins) GEORGE WASHINGTON cannot be ready Halifax before about 1/1. Will report further 2250Z/12. (Ends.)
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 0349Z/13, to D.S.T.)

/Your 2039/6.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

T.C.16.
Contd.

Your 2039/6. My 1543Z/29/10 and 0349Z/13.
Movement control now state maximum of 4,000 army and 3,500 air force personnel, total 7,500, will be ready for T.C.16 early December.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2138Z/13, to D. of S.T.)

AMHERST.

Proceed to St. Johns N.F.
(C.C.N.F., 0414Z/13 to AMHERST.)

ST. LAURENT.

Proceed Halifax at best prudent speed forthwith, Repeat E.T.A.
(C.C.N.F., 0422Z/13, to ST.LAURENT.)
My 0422Z/13. Request ST. LAURENT be taken in hand on arrival as she is required for S.C.57 to sail from St. Johns, N.F. 29/11. No other destroyer available for this convoy.
(C.C.N.F., 0429Z/13, to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

Fuelling, St. Thomas.

Position now clearly understood.
(N.C.S.O. St. Thomas, V.I., 0853/13, to Admty.)

ROBIN HOOD, suspicious ship.

Vessel sighted by ROBIN HOOD on 11/11 was probably TISNAREN carrying deck cargo of aeroplanes.
(D.D.I.C. 1005Z/13 to Opnav.)

PRINCE HENRY.
PRINCE DAVID.

Your 1846Z/12. Immobilising of PRINCE HENRY is a great pity from operational point of view, as I had intended she should work as a unit with PRINCE DAVID vide my 8211Q/31/8. to C.N.S. Canada only. With their high endurance and speed these ships make a useful (?pair) for hunting raiders. If no other vessel can be found to act as depot ship, can PRINCE DAVID's refit be expedited to enable her to operate with CIRCASSIA as early as possible?
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1021Q/13 to C.N.S., Canada.)

ST. CROIX, defects.

Your (? 1509Z/12.) Can proceed direct to Halifax if I part company now. Have 2 oil tanks and 1 boiler room making water, 1 main fuel pump burst cylinder, other pumps leaking. Request immediate approval to part company with convoy in order to save time in refit,
(ST. CROIX, 1101Z/13, to C.C.N.F.)

/ODENWALD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.Contd.

ODENWALD. Request as soon as possible following details of ODENWALD: (1) Nature of operations or voyage on which ship was engaged. (2) If supply ship, whether for U-boats or surface raider. (3) Indications of past and intended routes.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1159Q/13, to Opnav.)

SAN CIPRIANO. EMPIRE JET. Have you any news of SAN CIPRIANO and EMPIRE JET due New York 5/11 from Loch Ewe and 6/11 from Mersey respectively?
(D.T.D. 1720A/13 to D.N.I., Ottawa.)

French Naval Units. B.A.D. Washington 1757R/13.
See South Atlantic.

O.N.35. O.N.35, U.S. Task Unit designation 4.1.1,DALLAS, ERICSSON, EBERLE, ELLIS, and UPSHUR.
(Opnav, 1837Z/13 to Admty.) O.N.35.
Your 1923Z/13, concur Task Unit designation will remain 4.1.1. unless you are notified otherwise.
(Opnav, 2305/13 to Admty.)

S.C.53. Escort. BURNHAM, CHAMBLY, MATAPEDIA, NAPANEE arrived St. John's N.F., fuelled and departed 2100 G.M.T. expected to overtake S.C.53 in vicinity position (p) during daylight 16/11.
(C.C.N.F. 2005Z/13 to U.S.C.N.O.)

Fast Tankers. Your 1350/12/7, subject fast tankers. It may strengthen the case that in the last two escorted convoys to Malta, of 15 ships only one was lost. On the return of these ships, unescorted, none have been lost.
(Head of M. Approved by 4th S.L., 2101A/13 to B.A.D.)

GUADALOUPE. (French.) Arrival 12th.
(New York, 2355Z/13.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.11.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARK ROYAL. Torpedoed 1602A/13. (See North Atlantic.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1332A/13, 1333A/13.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Weather. Blyth was reopened at 0919A today and Aberdeen at 1715.

Dispositions to intercept raiders. FORESIGHT, FURY and FORESTER, after being detached from Convoy W.S.12.Z. are to fuel and proceed to establish a patrol until after dark 23/11 between 25° W. and 27° W. and 43° N. and 46° N. with the object of capturing or destroying enemy merchant vessels or armed raider which may endeavour to make for a port in the Bay of Biscay in the near future.

COLTSFOOT. Corvette COLTSFOOT has been neither seen nor heard since about 2100/12 in approx. 51° 55' N. 22° 40' W. when she was sent on A/S sweep astern of O.S.11, and it is feared she may have run into trouble. (Later, she reported her position 1720Z/18).

Enemy Air Operations.

Swedish tanker SVEADROTT was attacked at 1340 and again at 1405 today when approaching Skopen Fiord (Faeroes). No casualties or apparent damage occurred.

Kinnairds Head Lighthouse and C.G. Station and Fraserburgh town were machine gunned by an aircraft early this afternoon. The fog horn was slightly affected for a very short time. Kinnairds Head opened fire after which the A/C dropped 2 bombs in the sea between Sandhaven and Fraserburgh.

Reports from skippers of fishing trawlers indicate considerable increase within the past fortnight in activity of enemy aircraft off south and S.E. coast of Ireland including territorial waters.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operation F.B. 34.

RORQUAL left Holy Loch this morning escorted by WHITE BEAR to Wolf Rock, to carry out a minelaying operation in the Bay of Biscay.

North Atlantic.

No. 812 Air Squadron reformed at North Front today with initial equipment of 9 Swordfish.

South Atlantic.

Convoys.

To speed up shipping and relieve congestion at Freetown C. in C. S.A. proposes that ships in O.S. convoys capable of proceeding direct to Cape, Lagos and Takoradi should break away from the main convoy and form an S.T. convoy some 250 miles from Freetown. He can provide a fresh local escort.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

ARK ROYAL (torpedoed 13/11)

Overnight, ARK ROYAL had raised steam in one boiler, steam was being raised in another, and it was hoped the ship would soon be able to steam.
At 0446A, however, flooding increased beyond control, the ship listed 37°, and had to be abandoned. Fire had broken out in the remaining boiler room.
ARK ROYAL sank at 0623A/14. Only 1 man, an able seaman, was lost.
Reporting the movements of ARK ROYAL prior to her being torpedoed, S.O. Force H states that she was screened by 7 destroyers. No contact by screen of H.E. was recognised and no track seen. The approach to Gibraltar was from a position 6 miles north of Alboran; this track was purposely adopted to change the usual procedure which had been to keep near the Spanish or Moroccan Coast.

Enemy units.

Aircraft reported sighting at 2115/14 5 enemy ships, probably 3 cruisers and 2 destroyers, in 39.40 N., 17.30 E., course 150°, speed 25 knots.

Libya and Western Desert.

8 Wellingtons dropped bombs last night on bases of moles in Benghazi Harbour; 3 bombed Derna and 1 bombed Bardia. 9 Marylands bombed Derna aerodrome today.

Tunisia.

U.S. Vice-Consul, Tunis, has been informed that owing to recent attacks on French M/V's en route from Tunis to Sfax, measures for the safety of French trade on Tunisian Coast are being taken by French Air Force.

Red Sea.

F.O. Red Sea assumed control of shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez including the port of Suez at 0900B today.

/Black.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Black Sea. Arrangements have now been made for certain Russian ships to pass out of the Black Sea. They will sail under Merchant Flag.

America and West Indies.

Sabotage is suspected as the cause of the fire which damaged S.S. LOCH MONAR in Panama Canal area on 10/11.

P.551 and P.511 were due to leave U.S. A. today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

North Russia, conditions. Your 1832Z/12. Personnel standing up well to weather and health generally good. Difficulties vary (corrupt group) with preparations, possibly before leaving U.K. Defects and much discomfort are inevitable but efficiency of ships has not yet been affected. Ships can be kept warm but condensation in all mess decks severe. Chief troubles encountered are those of berthing fuelling and harbour movements consequent on limited icebreaker service. These are now acute and river can no longer be used by sweepers. Molotovsk is not likely to be satisfactory for long, Iokanka may only be used in an emergency and arrivals and departures confined to daylight hours. Existing unmarked underwater defences there make passage in or out of harbour hazardous. Consider Minesweepers should be based on Murmansk after arrival P.Q.4. Request early information when H.M.Ships HAZARD, HEBE, SHARPSHOOTER, may be expected. (S.O. 1st M/S.F. 1257Z/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Movements.

SHEFFIELD. Departure SHEFFIELD 2200. (A.C.I.C., 0217N/14)

RORQUAL. Sailed RORQUAL escorted by WHITE BEAR in accordance with S.3's 1135A/13. Code word "Keeper". (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0844A/14)

Admiral Muselier. Admty 1314A/13 and C.C.N.F. 0113Z/14. In order that Admiral Muselier may take passage as suggested in C.C.N.F., 0113Z/14 para (2) propose that Admiral and staff should proceed direct to Iceland in COMMANDANT DETROYAT sailing from Clyde 24/11. E.T.A. Iceland 28/11 line three passage etc. and line five DETROYAT. (C. in C. W.A., 1040A/14 to Admty. C.C.N.F.)

/EREBUS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

EREBUS.	Admty 1919A/6 intended to sail EREBUS for Lough Foyle at 0800/20. (ii) 2 destroyers from the Nore Command will escort EREBUS as far as Kinnaird Head where she is due daylight 22. (iii) C. in C. W.A., and R.A.(D) H.F. are requested to arrange any onward escort from Kinnaird Head considered necessary. (iv) Fighter protection for whole passage will be arranged by C. in C. Nore. (C. in C. Nore, 1144A/14 to C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Londonderry).
JAY, LORD GREY, AIGLON.	Intend sailing C/M JAY in company with M/S Trawlers LORD GREY and AIGLON P.M./18 in accordance with A.M. 1933/26/8 amended by 1652/23/9 1249/11/10 and 1844/13 /11. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1408A/14) A.M.1844/13/11 and my 1408A/14. Request route observing that JAY's limit of endurance is based on a speed of 7½ knots which is her maximum under ideal conditions. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1414A/14 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 1414A/14 not to all addressees. Route for JAY, LORD GREY and AIGLON. (p) 270° Oversay 6 miles. (q) 54.00'North 21.00 West. (r) 40.00 28.30 thence to Fayal. (s) 20.00 21.00. (t) 10.00 17.30 thence to Freetown. (C. in C. W.A., 1834A/14 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Information for SEALION.	Submarine movements (i) K2. arrived zone 4 P.M./14 (ii) CHUKA 402 leaves zone 2 P.M./14 routed 72.30 N., and by route Y (iii) K.22 leaves zone one 0100C/15 routed, 72.30 N., and routed Y (iv) TRIDENT sails 1500C/15 route B and 72.10 N. Admty pass to SEALION on next H.S. routine. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1721C/14 to SEALION)
ANTELOPE	Re. sailing from Scapa to be taken in hand for refit. (C. in C. H.F., 1750Z/14 to ANTELOPE, R.A.(D) H.F.)
EDINBURGH, SUFFOLK.	Departure C.S.18 in EDINBURGH and SUFFOLK 1745. (A.C.I.C., 1811N/14)
GOSSAMER, HUSSAR, SPEEDY.	My 1910C/13. E.T.A. Murmansk, 1000C/16. (S.O. 1st M/S.F. 2211C/14 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

P.38. To avoid shipping movements proceed forthwith submerged by day to patrol within five miles of 50° 50' N., 16° 48' W. You will be ordered to leave your patrol after dark/16 (F.O.(S), 1316A/14 to P.38).

Patrol by FORESIGHT, FURY, FORESTER. Enemy merchant vessels or armed merchant raider may endeavour to make for a port in the Bay of Biscay in the near future.
2. After being detached from Convoy W.S.12Z and having fuelled take FURY and FORESTER under your orders and establish a patrol between 25° W., and 27° W., and 43° N., 46° N.,
3. Object is to capture enemy ships. If this is not possible they are to be destroyed.
4. Operation should be carried out on the assumption that U-boats are in company with merchant vessels.
5. Leave patrol after dark/23 and return to U.K. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1617A/14 to FORESIGHT)

K.22. Your 1545A November 11th. Submarine K.22 ordered to leave patrol at 0100C/15 routed 69.40 N., 11.50 E. to 72.30 N., 20 E. Signal received by K.22 and acknowledged. Admty. pass to all addressees except Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1710C/14)

PRINCE ships. Exercise L.9. Re. Admty. 1346A/13 request you will make following available for exercise L nine. (V.A.C.T.C., 1726/14 to C.Q.2)

M.T.B. Operation. Re. attack by coastal (sic) on an enemy convoy on night of 3/4 Nov. A/C R/C made 14/11 reports a ship of about 5,000 tons beached and lying on its side half submerged at half tide about 300 yards from the shore about 3 miles North of Boulogne. (V.A. Dover, 1843A/14 to Admty).

British Air Operations.

Patrols. "Polar" will be carried out by Northrop A/C from first light/15 until dusk. (A.C.I.C., 2309N/14).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Faeroes bombed on 13/11.	Single enemy aircraft dropped two bombs Noslo lighthouse and R.T. Station 1210/13. One bomb exploded. No casualties or damage. (O.C. Troops, Faeroes, 1055/14)
S.S. MONMOUTH COAST (attacked 12/11.	My 2016A/13. Attack on MONMOUTH COAST confirmed by EXOUS but plane crash not confirmed. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1137A/14)
O.G.76 AUDACITY 8/11.	Request brief statement of AUDACITY operation against shadowing aircraft including circumstances attending loss of 1 Martlet. (C. in C. W.A., 1143A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)
S. & S.E. Coast of Ireland.	Reports from Skippers of fishing trawlers indicate considerable increase within past two weeks in activity of enemy aircraft off S. and S.E. Coast of Ireland including territorial waters, Graded A.1. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1229A/14)
Kinnairds Hd. Lt. Ho. and Fraserburgh.	Kinnairds Head Lighthouse and C.G. Station, also town of Fraserburgh machine gunned by one aircraft at 1250/14. Fog horn slightly damaged, no casualties. Kinnairds Head opened fire with M.G. Aircraft then dropped two bombs in sea between Sandhaven and Fraserburgh. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1443/14). F.O.I.C. Aberdeen's 1443/14/11 Kinnairds Head Light and Fog Signal are in perfect order if and when requested. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1743/14 to Admty).
SVEADROTT.	Swedish Tanker SVEADROTT attacked by one enemy aircraft when approaching Skopen Fiord today. First attack at 1340 and second attack at 1405. Bombs missed by 75 yards. No casualties or apparent damage. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1825A/14)

/HILL....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

HILL (Norwegian, 496 tons) KYLE QUEEN (British, 696 tons) attacked on 20/10. LANAHRONE (Irish, 1221 tons) attacked 29/10.

Your 1507A/7. Following received from N.A. Dublin begins. Department of Eire External Affairs have investigated matter with following result.
(a) Report is incorrect but may be based on mix-up of facts set out below.
(b) P.M. on 20th October HILL and KYLE QUEEN were attacked by aircraft near Coningbeg light vessel which made signals to Eire. Kilmore Quay lifeboat then put out and searched area. HILL afterwards claimed having shot down enemy plane.
(c) LANAHRONE was attacked by aircraft at 1920/29/10 half mile W.N.W. of Saltees. Ends. 1500/13.
(D.N.I., 1830A/14 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

Mining.

Operation Q.K.(4).

My 1142A/13/11. Operation Q.K.(4) was abandoned due to adverse weather conditions. (C. in C. Nore, 1054A/14 to Admty).

Thames Estuary.

One red mine detonated at 0450 (position) (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1117A/14).

N.E. Coast.

4th to 11th Nov. the following moored mines have been dealt with in this command. (details) Total. 11 Stranded Mines, 14 Drifting Mines. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1129/14).

Operation N.P.18.

Intend to carry out Operation N.P.18 tonight 14/11. (V.A. Dover, 1205A/14).
My 1205A postponed owing to weather. (V.A. Dover, 1914A/14).

Bristol Channel.

Exploded one red and one blue mine simultaneously both van at 1221A/14 in 027° 3.5 cables Flatholm Light probably laid 26/10. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel, 1630A/14)

Floating mine in Atlantic.

Reference floating mine reported as having been sunk by you on 1/9 in 045° 03' N., 025° 53' W., forward a report in writing with full description and sketch at first opportunity. (C. in C. W.A., 1802A/13 to LULWORTH).

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

3 Unknown ships.

3 Large ships illuminated heading 090° speed 12 knots approx. 062° 00' N., 012° 36' W. Unable to intercept resuming patrol. (NORTHERN SKY, 0110A/14 to S.O.N.T., D.C. 0903A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Navigational.

Blyth.

My 1944A/12. Port open. (N.O.I.C. Blyth, 0919A/14)

58 A Buoy.

Light extinguished. (SHELDRAKE 1210/14 to C. in C. Nore).

Silting at Lowestoft.

Following Signals received begins:-
Addressed to C. in C. Nore.
From F.O.I.C. Yarmouth.
The Harbour Mouth at Lowestoft is rapidly becoming silted up due to the incessant gales and the impossibility of dredging during bad weather. It is considered that this silting is probably increased by the wreck of the Blockship FIDELIA inside the North Pier Head, and steps are being taken by the Salvage Officer to see whether it is possible to raise this Blockship. Meanwhile entry into the Harbour is considerably restricted.
A further signal will be made in due course.
1748A/10.
Addressed to C. in C. Nore,
From F.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth.
N.O.I.C. Lowestoft reports that the silting of Lowestoft Harbour is becoming more serious and if North Easterly Gales recur, danger exists of further closure of Navigable Channels already gravely restricted.
It is requested that the assistance of a Suction Dredger of about 500 tons may be obtained.
F.O.I.C. Harwich states no Dredger available from Harwich. 1829A/14. Ends:- Request early steps may be taken to remedy this.
(C. in C. Nore, 2253/14 to Admty).

Aberdeen.

Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1715/14).

/N.E....

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational - Contd.

N.E. Goodwin Buoy. — N.E. Goodwin buoy missing from station. Request promulgation by Fleet Notice to Mariners. (V.A. Dover, 1851A/14 to Admty).

58 A Buoy. — Light reported extinguished. Request QZH. (C. in C. Nore, 2235A/14 to Admty).

Technical.

Minor War Vessels recognition signals. — Admty. 1450B/8/8/41 and A.L. M/SD 02302/41 of 24/7 /41. Minor War Vessel Day Display Signals will shortly be abolished and single letter flashing signals for use by all H.M. Ships to Shore Batteries and Minor Defended Ports substituted in place thereof. Owing to differing proposals received, request remarks on following alternatives only:-
(D.S.D., 1624A/14 to C's. in C. Home, A.C.O.S., V.A. Dover, C.S.S.)

Casualties & Defects.

ANGLE. — Arrived ANGLE in tow of FREEBOOTER escorted by ST. APOLLO.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0033A/14).
Making contact with ANGLE and the towing of her safely into port is a commendable piece of seamanship. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0103A/14 to FREEBOOTER, ST. APOLLO).

DRAGONET, LE LUTTEUR. — About 1000 today DRAGONET collided with LE LUTTEUR causing extensive damage to LE LUTTEUR Extent of damage to DRAGONET not ascertained. LE LUTTEUR was moored at A buoy at the time of collision.
(C.S.V.O. Scapa, 1045/14).

ARK ROYAL. — Regret to inform you ARK ROYAL has been sunk probably by submarine. Casualties very few. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1220A/14 to Cs. in C. Home and Abroad).

NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE. — Have been involved in collision. No serious damage caused. (NOTRE DAME DE FRANCE, 1335/14 to B.D.Z).

AQUAMARINE. — My 1519/8 Repairs to AQUAMARINE will be completed by 19/11. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1457/14 to C. in C. W.A.)

/LETTIE.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects - Contd.

LETTIE. Steam tug LETTIE which sailed Blyth A.M./9 for Inverness presumed lost with all hands P.M./9/11. Two bodies found near Tentsmuir Point (56° 26' N., 02° 48' W) on 12/11 identified by owners' representative as members of crew. (names) Body of (name) recovered from Fish Dock Dundee reported in N.O.I.C. Dundee 1845/12 also believed member of crew. 6 not yet accounted for. Tug presumed LETTIE reported passing St. Abbs Head northbound at 1630/9. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1606/14)

MURRAYFIELD (British, 576 tons). My 1705/12/11. Following information received from N.C.S.O. Dundee. Master of SOJOURNER reports that whilst he was off Montrose MURRAYFIELD passed and was last seen by him off Red Head at approx. 1300/9/11. (N.C.S.O. Leith, 1800/14)

COLTSFOOT. COLTSFOOT has been neither seen nor head since about 2100/12 in approx. 051° 55' N., 022° 40' W., whence she was sent on anti shadow (?A/S) sweep, astern O.S.11. A search up to 26 miles was made P.M./13 by CLARE. COLTSFOOT has been called on R.T. on 13/11 and today, neither has any reply to my 1645A/14 been received. In view of extreme visibility on 13/11 she is unlikely merely to have lost the convoy and may have run into trouble.
(STORK, 2010A/14 to C. in C. W.A.)
If not in company with Convoy report your position course and speed.
(C. in C. W.A., 2312A/14 to COLTSFOOT.)

Shipping & Convoys.

O.N.S.35. U.S. escort (S.O. U.S. destroyer ERICSSON) Sailed 2015 with one merchant ship.
(A.C.I.C., 0005N/14)

S.L.91.
O.S.11. IBIS 2200Z/13 and FLEETWOOD 1740Z/13. Estimate S.L.91 and O.S.11 will meet on converging courses about 0400A/14 convoys alter course to starboard to clear.
(C. in C. W.A., 0153A/14 to FLEETWOOD, IBIS, for Cdres).

/W.S....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

W.S.14. Proposed arrangements. (D. of S.T., 0719A/14)
(See Lion Copy)

C.T.7
PASTEUR. My 0128/9. Confirmed that PASTEUR will be used for convoy C.T.7 Sailing Clyde 22.11. Vessel will be embarked to capacity. Embarkation will take place 21.11.
(D. of S.T., 0720A/14 to P.S.T.O. West of Scotland).

Iceland (C) sections of Atlantic convoys. To distinguish between Iceland (C) sections which leave and join Atlantic convoys the present suffix I (letter) is abolished and the following are established:-
Suffix L for ships leaving a convoy for Iceland.
Suffix J for ships joining a convoy from Iceland.
(D.T.D., 1048A/14)

P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys. Admty 1522A/12. 8 inch cruiser can do round trip to Scapa without fuelling and have margin of 11 tons if starting from Seidisfjord (Iceland). Chance of oiling destroyers very slight but oil taken at Murmansk by cruiser could be limited to 500 tons plus any given destroyers and 200 tons for this purpose on return passage.
Unless scale of enemy activities increases in area it is considered from now till daylight lengthens ships could be routed independently with safety if escorted to 50 miles North of Cape Kanin in groups when loaded. This would get over difficulty of assembling convoy when ships have to be brought out to entrance of White Sea by ice breakers.
Q.P. two contains 14 knot and 7 knot ships.
(F.O.1.C.S., 1132A/13 to C. in C. H.F.)

P.Q.5.
HAZARD,
HEBE,
SHARPSHOOTER. Cancel paragraph (i) of my 1832Z/12 not to A.C.I.C. HAZARD, HEBE and SHARPSHOOTER are to escort convoy P.Q.5. to Archangel. Request you will sail them to arrive Hvalfiord on 21/11. Admty pass to North Russia and Archangel.
(C. in C. H.F., 1805Z/14 to R.A.(D) H.F.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ARK ROYAL (torpedoed 13/11.)

My 1602. Flooding increased beyond control. Ship listed 37°. Been abandoned. Still in tow. Situation appeared to be in hand till fire broke out in remaining boiler room.
(S.O. Force H., 0446A/14 to Admty.)
ARK ROYAL has sunk.
(S.O. Force H., 0623A/14 to Admty.)
My 0623. Destroyers are now carrying out S/M hunt.
(S.O. Force H., 0656A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Propose that F.O.C.N.A. should preside over Board of Enquiry into loss of ARK ROYAL.
(F.O. Force H., 1005A/14 to Admty.)
My 2359A/13. HERMIONE was not on screen at the time having been detached as target for throw off shoot by MALAYA. Screen consisted of 7 destroyers in number 7 diagram.
(ii) Movements prior to torpedoing as follows: (? Fleet) on mean course 270° speed 18 knots zig-zag number 11. 1518 emergency alteration to 010° to avoid suspected contact reported by LAFOREY in position M.
1523 contact negatived. 1529 resumed course 270°. ARK ROYAL increased speed and (? hauled) out to 286° for flying.
1535 ARK ROYAL resumed station.
1538 ARK ROYAL altered to 286° for flying.
1540 remainder of force altered to 290° in accordance with zig-zag.
1541 ARK ROYAL torpedoed.
(iii) Examination of ARGUS A/S screen and sighting by her of periscope suggest submarine fired at long range line on starboard bow. No contact by screen or H.E. heard. No track seen. Approach to Gibraltar was from position six miles north of Alboran. This track purposely adopted to change usual procedure which has been to keep near Spanish or Moroccan Coast.
(S.O. Force H., 1755/14 to Admty.)
My 0650/14. All officers saved. 18 men still to be accounted for but some may be in ships not yet returned.
(F.O. Force H., 1948A/14 to Admty.)
I consider B.B.C. Broadcast gives very false impression concerning possible casualties in ARK ROYAL. My 0650 and my 1948 refer. Improbable casualties exceed one per cent and may be less. Request this may be corrected in tomorrow's broadcast.
(S.O. Force H., 2259A/14 to Admty.)

/OLYMPUS.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

OLYMPUS.	Admty. 1311A/15/8. OLYMPUS has satisfactorily completed 14 days patrol and is now considered fit for operational patrol. Urgent A/C stores are being sent by air to Malta and unless petrol is required propose to sail OLYMPUS for patrol in Tyrrhenian Sea about 23rd. (F.O.C.N.A., 1110A/14 to C. in C. Med.)
CORINTHIAN.	E.T.A. Fayal a.m./21. Request 200 tons of Coal 200 tons of water may be supplied. (S.O.W.P., 1202A/14 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)
S.S. EUGENIO C. (Italian.)	EUGENIO C. arrived Bilbao from Castro last night 13th full load of iron ore date of sailing for France unknown but ready for sea. (Consul, Bilbao, 1213/14.)
Stationing Rescue tug at Azores or Funchal.	Your 2047A/13. Matter still under consideration by Government. Fear refusal probable. (N.A. Lisbon, 1215/14 to Admty.)
JONQUIL, COREOPSIS.	Corvettes are to refuel as requisite from DINGLEDALE. (F.O.C.N.A., 1316A/14 to JONQUIL.)
Oil Shortage at P. Delgada.	My 1118/8. V.O.C. report extreme shortage marine lubricating oil Ponta Delgada. Unable to supply from Lisbon. (B.N.A. Lisbon, 1537/14 to Admty.)
French Shipping.	Arrival 13/11 CANDEBEC. Departure 15/11 PONTET CANAT Navicert. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1602/14.)
MARSDALE.	Departure to patrol H.X.2 routed through (a) 035° 50' N. 006° 58' W. (b) 035° 00' 017° 00' S. of A. 12 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802A/14 to Admty.)
A/Cs. for ARGUS.	Sufficient aircraft are available at Gibraltar ex ARK ROYAL or in reserve to allow ARGUS to operate with Force H pending relief by another carrier. (F.O. Force H., 2007A/14 to Admty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

A/Cs. for ARGUS. (Contd.)

Your 1655A/14 (N.T. in W.D.)
(a) Intend sailing Convoy night D 2/3 in accordance with C. in C. Med. 1454/14 (N.T. in W.D.)
(b) Is it desired ARGUS and ATHENE should accompany NELSON returning Gibraltar night D/3/4 using 4 destroyers of Force H as escort?
(c) My 2007/14 refers. Signal re equipment of these aircraft follows.
(S.O. Force H., 2254A/14 to Admty., amended 1137A/15.)
Reply from Admty., 1331/15.

South Atlantic.

LAFONIA.

My 0243/27/8.
Understand LAFONIA is now due Durban about 25/11. Request you advise S.T.O. Freetown in due course of anticipated date by which LAFONIA will be available in West Africa.
(D.S.T., 0454A/14 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

B.D.V's.

Your 1247/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown only.
Boom vessels JENNET, PUNNET and RENNET arrive Capetown 27/10. Regret not previously reported.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0853Z/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

S.S. BURDWAN.

Overdue shipping cancel my 0915/13. BURDWAN arrived Capetown.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0925B/14.)

Repatriation of SHAHRISTAN Survivors.

My 1307/7 and your 1616A/6, only suitable ship in S.L.93 in BAARN (Dutch). Should she be used.
(C. in C. S.A., 1106N/14 to Admty.)
Reply: 2110/15.

/Appreciation...

MOST SECRET

1

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Appreciation of situation employment of S.D.F. vessels.

Your 1303/14/10. Following is Admty. appreciation of war situation which may develop in South African waters:-

(a) Threat of minelaying by raider off ports is small but mines might be laid at intermediate points if air R/C is inadequate. Danger from these is small if ships are routed whenever possible in deep water between swept channels.

(b) Threat from ground mines laid by S/M's exists and will increase as number of German U-Boats in service increases. Entry of Japan into war unlikely to affect situation.

(c) U-Boat activity against trade in South African waters is possible should Germans succeed in locating supply ships in Southern Atlantic waters.

(d) Opportunities for interception of enemy supply ships or enemy-controlled trade will continue and may increase.

2. Admty. consider that present A/S and M/S forces now in South African waters are adequate but any increase in establishment that would allow of more S.D.F. ships serving in Mediterranean, African or West African ports would be of the greatest assistance to us. These ships would of course be available for recall to South African waters should an unexpectedly heavy threat develop there, otherwise R.N. vessels would be sent in place of them.

3. Admty. can turn over to S.D.F. 4 of the whalers shortly due to fit out in South Africa provided these can be employed under the above conditions, and would welcome any assistance that the S.D.F. could give in manning 6 A/S trawlers now at Freetown which are due to recommission early next year.

4. I regret that no corvettes can be spared as these vessels must always be held available for employment on trade protection away from their bases, and the conditions of service of the S.D.F. would, it is presumed, preclude such employment.

5. You should consult High Commissioner before informing Union Authorities in foregoing sense. (A.C.N.S.(F), 1131A/14 to F.O.i/c. Simonstown.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Convoy C.W.21. My 1531/7. It is considered probable that convoy C.M.21 can be got ready to leave Durban about 24/11 consisting of the following group B ships accommodating numbers stated. CITY OF CANTERBURY 1527, LLANDAFF CASTLE 840 DILWARA 1356, DUNERA 1989, ELIZABETHVILLE 947. Request I may be informed if escort can be arranged. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1201B/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. Your 1301/13. Concur with suggested arrangements. I propose to dock DUNNOTTAR CASTLE at Simonstown 17/11 as arranged followed by engine repairs at Capetown. Anticipate 3 to 7 days in dock plus about 3 weeks at Capetown. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1223B/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

WISHART, WILD SWAN. Your 1202A/12. If WISHART and WILD SWAN can escort to vicinity of Bathurst arrangements will be made to relieve them there. (C. in C. S.A., 1301N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PERU. Reference SSSS at 1733Z/12 from PERU. Located 3 boats presumed to be PERU's in 03.22 N., 12.52 W. Survivors now on board ZUNIWALECO proceeding Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1645N/14 to Admty.)

RAPIDOL, ECHODALE. Your 1826A/3 (1836/3 intended). Oiler RAPIDOL with 2000 tons will be available to sail from Bathurst escorted by one corvette 17/11. Intend to sail ECHODALE with S.L.93 for fuelling escorts of S.L.93 and O.S.11 unless RAPIDOL is not required for W.S.122 in which case latter ship will join S.L.93 with ocean escort. (C. in C. S.A., 1647N/14 to Admty.)

Whalers, S. Georgia. Your 1243/14 (not to Admty.) Junior Vestfold Whalers are taking 22 extra men to South Georgia. If sufficient crew available sail all 23 Whalers to Cape as in your 1313/9 (not to C. in C. S.A. or Admty.), number of groups depending on W/T Operators available. (R.A.S.A.D., 1719Z/14 to N.O.I.C. Falklands.)

/Suspicious....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Suspicious Vessel sighted by ROBIN HOOD.

Your 1145/12. TISNAREN has arrived Capetown and reports having sighted ROBIN HOOD on (? 11) November in position given in Admty. 1935/11. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1720B/14 to C. in C. S.A.) (N.O.i/c. Simonstown 1720/14. I should like you to carry out search ordered in my 0951/12 all the same. N.O.i/c. Simonstown pass to S.O. Force G.
(C. in C. S.A., 2215N/14 to DEVONSHIRE.)

O.S. Convoys.

Proposals for S.T. section to break away 250 miles from Freetown of ships capable of proceeding direct to Cape, Lagos, Takoradi.
(C. in C. S.A., 2343N/14 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

C.C. Bases at Haifa & Port Said.

As I am satisfied that the need for naval Contraband Control organisation at Haifa has now passed and as the service of two Officers who were not fully employed there were required elsewhere, the Haifa C.C. Base has been reduced to a C. and M. basis, Palestine Customs carry out all routine examinations and N.O.I.C. is available for specified requirements. At Port Said there is now none of the normal duties of a naval C.C. Base and staff are employed in issuing navicerts, dealing with commercial enquiries and some war trade intelligence. At my request H.B.M. Ambassador is arranging for such duties to revert to the British Consul at Port Said and the C.C.B. staff will be reduced to two or three who will be able to deal with the very small number of neutral ships clearing from Port Said and the Schooner traffic, which now appear to be the only potential channels for leakage of contraband.
(C. in C. Med., 1000/14 to Admty.)

UPRIGHT, URGE, P.34.

Operation B.S. Appendix 1 Para. 7. UPRIGHT, URGE, P.34 move 27 miles 53° until 1200B/15.
2 important southbound merchant ships estimated 16 knots may be encountered centre position about 0830B/15.
(Capt. 3.10, 1006B/14 to S/M's on Patrol.)

/TORBAY.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

TORBAY, TALISMAN. On completion of first part of special operation establish patrol within 10 miles of following position: TORBAY 335° Tolmeita light 88 TALISMAN 350° Tolmeita light 100.
(Capt. S.1., 1029B/14 to TORBAY, TALISMAN.)

Destroyers. Your 2338A/10. Paras. (b) and (e). I should like to defer decision for the present.
(C. in C. Med., 1036B/14 to Admty.)

UPRIGHT, URGE, P.34. My 1006/14. At 1200B/15, UPRIGHT and URGE resume original patrols. P.34 return to Malta as in my 1333B/12.
(Capt. S.10., 1055B/14 to S/M's on Patrol.)

Air Operations. 1 of the 2 enemy aircraft returning from Gulf of Suez night 9/10 Nov. dropped 4 bombs near Suez railway 60 miles east of Cairo alongside 112 M. E no damage or casualties. Night 12/13 Nov. 1 enemy aircraft was over Delta coast between Damietta and Baltim for half an hour without dropping bombs.
Night 12/13 Nov. 22 Wellingtons operated 18 dropped 47,500 lbs. bombs on stores dumps and railway sidings Benghazi direct hit with 1 - 4000 lb. bomb on railway sidings extinguished 3 searchlights several fires started at both objectives. 1 Wellington dropped 2500 lbs. bombs on stores and M.T. at Derna.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1124/14.)

URSULA, UNBEATEN, UNIQUE. Leave patrol p.m./16 through 033° 00' 015° 00' 035° 20' 014° 00', 035° 30' 014° 10' to arrive Marsamxett during daylight/18.
UNBEATEN leaves 034° 10' 014° 30' about 1900B/16 to arrive 033° 00' 015° 50' about 1900B/17th.
Anticipate UNIQUE 034° 18' 015° 20' about 1900B/16 thence through 035° 20' 014° 14' and 035° 30' 014° 14' to arrive Malta 0730B/18 one engine only available.
S/Ms. encountered by UNIQUE and URSULA during night of 16th/17th and 17th/18th and by UNBEATEN during night of 16th/17th are not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10., 1149B/14 to URSULA, (R) S/Ms. on Patrol.)

/Russian.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Russian ships passing out of Black Sea.	Following for Admiral Kelly, Repeated C. in C. Med. begins; Admty. 1238/10/10. Soviet C.N.S. requests that you will arrange for your representatives to get in touch with Cpt. Rodionov Soviet N.A. now in Istanbul immediately. 2. As Convoy is sailing under Merchant Flag all official arrangements are in hands of Counsellor of Soviet Embassy who will receive further instructions sub rosa from Cpt. Rodionov. 3. Whilst these arrangements are still being made by Captain Rodionov outside diplomatic channels Soviet authorities are most insistent that no word of these should reach the Turks. (Admiral Miles, 1207D/14 to Admty.)
S.S.TONELINE, S.S. PASS OF BALMAHA M.E. Merchant Seaman Pool.	S.S. TONELINE has been commissioned as an H.M. ship because no crew can be obtained locally willing to proceed to Tobruk. S.S. PASS OF BALMAHA was similarly commissioned on two occasions. I hope that it is appreciated that it is a rare exception for a British Merchant Ship proceeding on this run to have an English crew. The usual composition is a mixture of Greeks Palestinian and Egyptian with a few Central Europeans. GEBEL KEBIR has Spanish Officers and Turkish Officers. I trust that active steps are being taken to make the Middle East Merchant Seaman Pool a reality. (C. in C. Med., 1210/14 to Admty.)
Destruction of convoy by Force K.	Your 1502B/10. Presume you received Admiralty message 2011A/9. (V.C.N.S., 1307A/14 to C. in C. Med.)
Appreciation of situation.	Following from Chiefs of Staff to C. in C. Med., C. in C. M.E., A.O.C. in C. M.E., C. in C. India, Governor Malta, C. in C. Far East, C. in C. China, S.O. Force G., C. in C. E.I., S.N.O. P.G., General Iraq, C. in C. E. Africa, No. 30 Military Mission (Russia). The following J.I.C. appreciation with which we are in agreement may be of value to Commanders in Chief. Begins. Immediate Future.

/2. Germany.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Appreciation of situation. Contd.

2. Germany will make further supreme effort to capture Moscow (and possibly Leningrad), to cut northern supply route, and should there be no immediate prospect of destroying the Russian armies to stabilise on these fronts and withdraw proportion of her forces.
3. This would secure winter accommodation for her troops and would enable her to present to her own people and to the world the semblance of Russian defeat, and would form background for general diplomatic peace offensive about which evidence is accumulating.
4. On southern front she must continue to push on into Caucasia to try to get control of at least the limited oil resources of north Caucasia as soon as possible and to prepare for further advance. It is unlikely that Caucasus Mts. will be reached before Christmas even if weather conditions are favourable. Main attack is likely to be across Don rather than from Crimea.
5. Germany must expect early British offensive in Libya and will therefore continue to build up her defensive strength there and to reinforce her air forces in S.E. Europe.
6. The Winter. German troops must be in urgent need of rest and refit if they are to be in condition to operate in full strength next spring. Administrative and transport problems to be solved in area which Germany is now holding down by force are vast and call for period of consolidation, especially in Russia.
7. Germany must however continue her campaign in northern Caucasia in order to prepare for capture of Caucasian oilfields, to embarrass Persian supply route to Russia, and to prepare for further operations in M.E. next spring or earlier if possible.
8. Battle of Atlantic will go on, Germans will resume as early and on as large scale as possible bombing of British shipping, ports and industries and preparations will continue for invasion of British Isles.
9. Spring, 1942. At opening of new campaigning season Germany will press on into Trans-Caucasia and will probably resume offensive operations on northern and central fronts unless she has broken Russian army.
10. Germany cannot ignore British position in Persia and will therefore try to drive south from Trans-Caucasia to safeguard her position there and to threaten British oil resources in Persia and Iraq.

/11. Without....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

Operation "Chieftain".

My 2325B/13. As sailing of convoy can now only be a very brief pretence it is impossible to hope that bluff can be maintained for long enough to hold enemy's attention on D 4 if present programme is adhered to.
Request unless you have any better idea that convoy be sailed eastward P.M. D.2 ensuring that departure is seen. Convoy can disperse after dark and return as unobtrusively as possible to Gibraltar.
(C. in C. Med., 1454B/14 to F.O. Force H.)
A. Your 0856A/14. Alternative A approved.
B. NELSON is to proceed to U.K. at best speed screened throughout by three destroyers of Force H who are then to return to Gibraltar.
C. ARGUS is to join Force H temporarily. Presume some of ARK ROYAL's T.S.Rs. and Fulmars are available and you may if you require them use the sea Hurricanes of 804 A Squadron. It is understood that spare torpedoes are available at Gibraltar.
D. ATHENE is to remain at Gibraltar pending decision as to disposal of remaining Hurricanes.
(1st S.L., 1655A/14 to S.O. Force H.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Appreciation of situation. (Contd.)

11. Without free use of Black Sea and Eastern Medtn. Germany will not get full value from occupation of Caucasus or of industrial areas of southern Russia. Germany may therefore feel compelled to assail our whole position in M.E. and may in consequence find herself in conflict with Turkey unless her advance into Trans-Caucasia and beyond has destroyed Turkey's will to resist.
12. With campaigns on her hands in Russia, Persia and throughout M.E., and with increased necessity of holding down occupied territories and guarding western coastline, Germany will do her best to avoid commitments in Spain and North Africa.
13. Germany will maintain threat of invasion of British Isles but is unlikely to make attempt unless she is convinced that our defence is dangerously weakened or unless she has evolved some new and powerful methods which make her prospects of success more favourable. Unless these factors seem satisfactory to German High Command an attempt at invasion next spring seems unlikely.
14. C. in C. Med. is requested to pass this message to C. in C. M.E., and A.O.C. in C. M.E.
15. The original J.I.C. paper is being sent by safe hand to Governor Gibraltar, G.O.C. in C. West Africa, S.O. Force H., F.O.C.N.A. and Joint Staff Mission Washington.
(C's. of S., 1311A/14 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., S.O. Force G., S.N.O.P.G.)

Jibuti.

Re Vichy resistance, food situation, threat to continue blockade if demolitions carried out, and recommendation for propaganda.
(C. in C. M.E., 1420/14, 1424/14, 1625/14 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

PORPOISE.

After passing 034° N. 025° E. proceed through 032° 34' 028° 22' thence direct to searched channel arriving at Sanctuary 0500B/18.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1505B/14 to PORPOISE.)

Warships for Turkey.

Following from Adm. Kelly. My 1608B/7. Gen. Gunduz, and Adm. Ulgen both confirm that Council of Ministers approve this arrangement. Procedure as follows. This is formality only and need not delay movements of ships.
(N.A. Angora, 1523B/14 to Admty.)

/SULLBERG.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 14.11.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

SULLBERG (German) — Departure 13th, Genoa. (Barcelona, 1614/14 to M. of W.T.)

Intelligence for THORN. — PROTEUS reports trawler and air patrol within 5 miles of Gaidaro Island. Traffic from Piraeus to Crete leaves after dark routed outside 100 fm. line east of St. Georgio Island, thence direct. Searchlights sweep Doro Channel. (Capt. (S) 1, 1715B/14 to THORN.)

Destroyer for Greeks. — My 1737/6 (Admty. 1737/6 intended). Adml. Sakellariou gratefully accepts offer of HUNT Class Destroyer and is proceeding with arrangements for sending (? necessary) personnel to U.K., for destroyers and submarines. As regards latter he presses strongly that he may be given submarines since he states Greeks are tired of always having to man old craft in constant need of repair. I am informing Admiral that I feel sure Admiralty will make best arrangements possible but that he must appreciate heavy call on new constructions making situation difficult. (C. in C. Med., 1802B/14 to Admty.)

Russian Ships from Black Sea. — Admty. 1111A/21/10 to Adm. Miles.
(1) Russian N.A. has received information from his government that approx. two ice breakers and eight tankers, speed approx. 10 knots, will be sailed within next 2 weeks from Black Sea through Straits to south. These in addition to SVANETIA.
(2) Also that his Government has agreed in principle with Adm. Miles that some form of protection will be provided by British Fleet and a convoy formed.
(3) Considered and Russian N.A. agrees that suitable British Officers should be sent to Istanbul to join and assist in taking ships down. If approved request 10 may be sent as soon as possible. They must travel as civilians.
(4) Request six further sets of charts be forwarded by quickest possible route also 11 Mediterranean pilots, vol. 4.
(5) Request instructions as Russian N.A. wishes to telegraph information to his Government.
(6) Admty. repeat to Adm. Miles.
(A.N.A. Istanbul, 1944B/14 to C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Ceylon defence.

Your 99620/M.O.12) 3/11. M.O.1. Date arranged mutually for assumption operational and administrated responsibility for Defence of Ceylon, 22/11.
(C. in C. India, 0235/14, to W.O.)

Dhow sunk by CHANTALA.

CHANTALA while on Djibouti patrol in July collided with Dhow FATEH EL BARI during routine examination at Sea. Dhow became waterlogged and turned turtle. Subsequently salved but with loss of part of cargo and gear. Admiralty liability obvious, but latter not yet acknowledged nor repairs to Dhow put in hand. To maintain confidence of local Dhow owners and encourage legitimate trading propose to admit liability and settle claim (details).
(C. in C.E.I., 1706/14, to Admty.)

China.

French Shipping.

Departure 13/11 GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER, Saigon 15th.
(Singapore, 0435Z/14 to M. of W.T.)

Suspicious Cruiser.

S.O.(I) Wellington 0354/12 and report of (?MOUNTAIN or) (2 corrupt groups) message begins on 4th, 9th and 19th October off Golspie and subsequently to W. and S.W. Do you consider r/c. of possible anchorages is desirable?
(C. in C. China, 0801Z/14 to N.Z.N.B.)
S.O.(I)Wellington's 0354/12 to C.O.I.S.Singapore. (Unidentified cruiser reported by Coast Watching Station Niriatobatabu.) Confirmed warship was not British, Dutch, Free French, or U.S.
(C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0806Z/14, to Admty., amended 0227Z/15.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

MIMOSA.
ACONITE.
ALYSSE.

Your A.M. 1314A/13.
(1) Movements three new French Corvettes as follows:-
MIMOSA, ACONITE with S.C.54 normally arrive Iceland about 24/11 returning St. John's with O.N.39 or O.N.40 arriving St. John's 6th to 9/12. ALYSSE in unit which will escort S.C.56 arriving Iceland about 6/12, returning St. John's with O.N.43 or O.N.44. Ship would leave Iceland about 9/12.
(2) Suggest MIMOSA be retained in Iceland until arrival COMMANDANT DETROYAT, then embark Admiral Muselier and sail to overtake O.N.40, or
(3) Alternatively Admiral could wait arrival ALYSSE Iceland and embark in her for St. John's.
(4) Para. (2) is recommended since two French vessels in this Unit.
(C.C.N.P., 0113Z/14, to C. in C.W.A.)

P551.
P511.

Following received from B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H. Addressed C.O.A.C. Halifax, B.A.D.Washington. Begins:- Intend sailing P.551 1300/14, S. of A., 12 knots, and P.511 at 1600/14, S. of A., 11 knots routed as in your 1626Z/11. T.O.O. 1901R/13. Ends. (B.A.D. Washington 0701R/14.)
Following from B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H. My 1901/13 P 551 and P 511 E.T.A., St. Johns N.F., at 0001Z/18 and 0800Z/18 respectively. Both these times and the T.O.O., of this signal have been communicated to P.551 and P511. 1245R/14 ends.
(B.A.D.Washington, 1931R/14.)

ELK
VISON.

ELK and VISON (?are being) (?retained) (?for service) at Trinidad during winter months. They will leave Halifax early in December and will be required to return 1st May 1942.
(C. in C.A.W.I., 10120/14 to N.O.I/C Trinidad.)

LOCHNONAR.
fire defects.

My 1641/10. Fire apparently originated in upper part No.3 lower hold just forward of hatchway - fear sabotage. No serious structural damage visible and investigation as to possible cause proceeding. Expect vessel ready to proceed about 17th.
(N.C.S.O. Panama, ?173/14 to S.O. Jamaica.)

/P.551.....

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

P.551.
P.511.

My 1901/13. P 551 and P 511 expected to arrive St. Johns N.F., at 0001Z/18 and 0800Z/18 respectively.
(B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H., 1215R/14, to C.O.A.C., B.A.D.)

Admiral Muselier's visit to Newfoundland.

Your 1314A/13. Request information whether intended to keep this visit secret or if desired to give publicity for political reasons.
(C.C.N.F. 1356Z/14 to Adty.)

ILLUSTRIOUS
FORMIDABLE.

Very desirable that ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE should leave the U.S.A., as soon as they are ready. Although it was previously understood that the first 48 folding wing Martlet aircraft for these ships would not be available until 15/12, it appears that 45 should be available by the end of November. Request this may be confirmed as it is not desired to delay the sailing of the ships beyond 8/12.
(V.C.N.S. 1502A/14 to B.A.D. Washington.)
Your 1502/14 and 1802/6. Earliest date ships can sail without embarking T.S.R. aircraft and without working up, ILLUSTRIOUS 30/11, FORMIDABLE 10/12.
2. ILLUSTRIOUS could complete working up by 4/12 and embarkation of T.S.R. aircraft from Jamaica in accordance with A.M.1802/6, para. 1, by 11/12.
3. FORMIDABLE could include some working up in her programme without delay beyond 10/12.
4. The exact position as regards Martlet aircraft is being ascertained and will be signalled tomorrow.
(B.A.D. Washington 1759R/14 to Adty.)
Admiralty's 0032A/4/10 to B.A.R.M. only and Admiralty's 1802A/6 not to all addressees.
Arrangements have been made for ILLUSTRIOUS and FORMIDABLE to be taken in hand by Cammell Lairds, Birkenhead and Harland & Wolff, Belfast respectively about middle December for completion of type 281 R.D.F. Time in hand about four weeks.
2. Request confirmation that work detailed in paragraph 3 of A.M.0032A/4/10, will remain to be carried out in U.K.
(Controller 1957A/14 to B.A.R.M.)

O.N.Convoy....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

O.N.Convoy escorts.

S.O.P.A. Iceland has been directed by "Cinclant" to give Canadian Units preference in assignment to O.N. convoys to promote reduction in length of their escort cycles to approximate length of U.S. escort cycles. It had been anticipated that 4.1.42 would be assigned to O.N.36. Any future action Adty., can take to facilitate the assignment of Canadian Units to fast Westbound convoys will be appreciated.
(C.C.N.F. 1513Z/14, to Adty. Amended 0202Z/16.)

Atlantic Convoys.

After the closing of Sydney (C.B.) In order to avoid HX. and SC. Convoys sailing from Halifax on the same day and to enable the necessary adjustments to be made to sailing dates of O.N. and O.N(S) Convoys. Request you will remark on (1) The most suitable interval between sailings for your purposes. (2)Probable date of last assembly at Sydney (CB) for this season.
(D.T.D. 1718A/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)
(Reply: C.O.A.C., 1525Z/16.)

Wrong arrival of ships.

Ref. A.M.1437/29/9, (See Home Commands, Shipping.) and your 2012Z/30/9, further investigation shows that reference to Canadian ports was made in error.
(D.T.D. 1755A/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Vichy Intelligence. SENNEVILLE.

Extract from 1911R/14:- Naval (iv) Tunis 11/11. (C.O.) U.S. Vice Consul informed due to recent attacks on SENNEVILLE and air attacks on French M/Vs en route from Tunis to Sfax, measures for safety of French trade on Tunisian Coast are being taken by French Air Force. M.E.W.(x)Vichy 12/11 (A.2) Darlan told Matthews that he hoped to be able to arrange for a shipment of gasoline and petroleum to North Africa from Roumania in near future.
(B.A.D., 1911R/14, to Admty.)

Australia.

Shipping movements not reported by Vesca system.

Your 1632A/12. (1) Local shipping proceeding coastwise on station. (2) Yes.
(A.C.N.B. 0813Z/14 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

PERU.
(torpedoed 12/11.)

C. in C.S.A. 1645N/14 (See S.A.). S/M sighting signal made by PERU at 1833/12, about 400' S. of Freetown. Presumed she was torpedoed about that time. Independently routed from Calcutta to Freetown and U.K., sailed from Table Bay 31/10. (D.O.R. 15/11, D.S.802, 15/11.)

HAZELSIDE.
(torpedoed 28/10.)

British MALAYAN PRINCE has landed survivors picked up 9/11 of British HAZELSIDE, sunk by 3 torpedoes at 0810Z/28/10 in 25° 10' S., 01°36' E. Chief Engineer and J Cutujar (as received) died in boats, remainder saved. Nothing seen of attacking vessel and Master considers deliberate attempt to sink without trace. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1437B/14, to Admty., etc.) HAZELSIDE bound from Freetown to Durban and Alexandria. Where overdue since 4/11. (D.S.803) (D.O.R. 16/11.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1400A/14, 1415A/14.)

In Firth of Lorne.

Enemy submarine reported in Firth of Lorne Asdic sweep being conducted by all available vessels and aircraft making R/C. Report considered doubtful.
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1457A/14.)
Re 1457/14 from N.O.I.C. Oban. Acting on telephonic information from N.O.I.C. Oban that report was relisble and periscope sighted by 3 seamen did despatch at 1450 ROSE and ROSTHERN to Firth of Lorne and Thyme to patrol Sound of Mull.
(WESTERN ISLES 1541A/14 to C. in C.W.A.)
My 1457A/14 negative report from Asdic sweep and aircraft. Reinforcing patrols tonight. Otherwise normal.
(N.O.I/C Oban, 1927A/14 to Admty.)

1215Z.

Task Unit 4.1.1 - reports definite sound contact S/M 65 - 53 N., 24 - 30 W. 1215Z/14.
(Opnav 1700Z/14 to Adty.)
Re my 1710Z/14. (?1700Z/14 intended.)
Change location of S/M to 62° 53' N., 24° 30' W. Ends.
(Opnav, 2021Z/14, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C T.

Am over enemy S/M in position 46.12 N., 6.50 W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge course 040° 8 knots.
(A/C T., 1000/14, to 19 Group.)
Have attacked 1 S/M with depth charges estimate 1 hit.
(A/C T. Sqn., 1003/14.) Hudson A/C, position 150m. S.W. of Ushant. (D.O.R. 15/11.)

By U.S. destroyer 1130 N.

U.S. A/C reports U.S. Destroyer obtained contact and dropped 6 d.c's in 63.00 N., 24.21 W., at 1130N/14. U.S. A/C remained over position.
(A.C.I.C. 2147N/14.)
W.D. Note. D.S.802, 15/11, gives position 62.53N., 24.30W., 100' S.W. Reykjavik.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.G.B. engagement.

4 M.G.Bs. from Dover sent to intercept several small surface craft plotted off the French coast, made contact at 2045 off Blanc Naz. The enemy are reported to have consisted of 6 or 7 E/R boats and one or more vessels, possibly of trawler or coaster type. A short sharp engagement took place, the enemy shore defences also coming into action.
M.G.B. 312 was considerably damaged and had some casualties and returned to harbour;
M.G.B. 314 was slightly damaged.
Our aircraft also attacked the enemy vessels, and apparently one A/C was shot down.

The S/M TUNA, patrolling Vestfiord, was ordered today to R/C inside the Fiord for about 60 miles in a North-easterly direction taking observation of both shores in addition to those previously ordered.

The Corvettes SUNFLOWER, KINGCUP, and ALISMA have been ordered to meet convoy H.X.159 and to sweep within 20 miles of the convoy until the M.O.M.P. is reached.

British Air Activity.

The Air patrol "Frice" from Iceland, which had been required by Admty. to be flown this afternoon in order to locate any enemy Raider or Supply ship attempting to break out, could not be carried out on account of the weather.
The patrol "Polar" is to be flown daily from tomorrow.

Bomber Command carried out no operations from 10/11 to 15/11 owing to bad weather.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy Q.P.2 which, escorted by NORFOLK and 2 Destroyers, left Archangel homeward bound at 2014/2, reported at 0956Z today that it was being shadowed by one A/C off Stadtland.

One enemy A/C circled Skaale Fiord in the Faroes from 0928A till 1005A today, and dropped 5 bombs without result.

Convoy E.N.6 was attacked at 1750A off Arbroath without result; and at 1915A the British CORHAMPTON in F.S.47 was badly damaged by a near miss off the Humber, and sank later.

At 1805 one A/C dropped 4 bombs in the Bay at Peterhead without result, and the A/C appeared to have been damaged by fire from the shore defences and ships.

Mining.

Thames Estuary. — There was considerable enemy air activity over the Estuary between 1850 and 2010 today and mining was suspected. Mines were detonated later.

North Atlantic.

AUDACITY. — If 3 Martlets as I.E. replacement for No. 802 Sqdn. can be shipped to Gibraltar, AUDACITY reports she could operate from there until January in offensive operations against Focke Wulfe aircraft.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S/M Operations. Reports on a special landing operation by TORBAY and TALISMAN are contained in TORBAY's 0042B/15 and 2204B/15.

S.S. EMPIRE DEFENDER is reported to have been bombed by enemy aircraft at 1624 G.M.T. today about 30 miles S.W. of Galita Island.

Air Operations. Brindisi and railway marshalling yards at Catania were bombed by Wellingtons last night.

Libya & Western Desert. 34 Wellingtons operated last night but heavy haze over the whole of Cyrenaica prevented observation of damage. Benghazi, Berka, Bardia and Derna were attacked.

Bosphorus. The entire Bosphorus boom has dragged in a gale and the gate is open.

East Indies.

Troop Convoy. U.S.13 (QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH) with troops for the Middle East, left Trincomalee at 0730Z today, escorted by CORNWALL.

U-Boat Campaign.

ACANTHUS obtained A/S contact at 1240 in 50.20 N., 17.22 W.; and attacked with unknown result. She proceeded with MYOSOTIS to join S.L.91.

It is reported that a Russian minesweeper was sunk by a U-Boat at 2025 today off Cape Orlov in 67° 30' N. 41° 11' E.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

AURANIA. — A.M. 1232A/30/10. Conversion of AURANIA to Auxiliary Destroyer Depot Ship will be undertaken at Devonport on completion of temporary damage repairs on the Clyde. (D.O.D. H. 1933A/15.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Charts of Norwegian Coasts. — Your tel 1905C/13. Two folios of unaddressed charts arrived Moscow and I hope are on their way here. (Ad. Miles, 0958D/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Arrival Signal Times — Unless otherwise stated in arrival signals the time of arrival of ships proceeding to Murmansk or Kola Inlet will be taken as time of arrival at a position one mile 090° Toros Island one mile at entrance Kola Inlet.
(ii) Request Admiralty General Message be issued.
(iii) Admiralty pass to R.A. 10 C.S.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1219C/15.)

1st M/S Flotilla. — Ice now dangerous in Dvina and at Molotovsk for sweepers. Propose sweepers be based at Murmansk.
(S.O. 1st M/S F. 2150C/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Movements.

1st M/S Flotilla. — S.O. 1st M.F. 2211C/14. Pilot will board you off Bolshoi Oloni Island at 0900C/16 to conduct you to new oiling jetty Rosta. Keep to Eastward 033° 31.5' E. between 069° 17' and 069° 15' to avoid obstructions. Lights as follows.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1046C/15 to GOSSAMER.)
Ice conditions at Molotovsk severe from outside approach channel. Got stuck at entrance to Approach Channel. Towed clear by Russian collier who states he would not attempt entry himself. Am proceeding to anchor off Bar. Have sufficient fuel for ten days steaming. Pilots Kominsky and Frankell embarked in Russian collier.
(S.O. 1st M/S F. 1643C/15 to S.B.N.O. Archangel)

C. in C. H.F. 2206Z/13. Intend sailing HAZARD and HEBE at 0300A/16 for Scapa. E.T.A. 0900A/17.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1504A/15.)

/TRIDENT ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.11.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

TRIDENT. TRIDENT sails to R/V with surface escort in 090° Bressay 5 miles at 0845A/23 for onward escort to Blyth routed as follows. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1502C/15.)

HAVELOCK HARVESTER. Sailed HAVELOCK and HARVESTER in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1915A/11 para 2. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1730/15.)

NORMAN. Your 1027/14. NORMAN can be taken in hand for work referred to on arrival at Greenock on completion of working up.
3. NORMAN will be required to leave U.K. on 3/12 with convoy W.S.14.
4. Request you will sail NORMAN for Clyde accordingly in sufficient time to enable work to be completed by this date.
(D.O.D. H. 1812A/15 to R.A.D.)

GOSSAMER. Report E.T.A. 069° 33' N. 034° 23' E. Soviet Union SHTORM Class Destroyers will R/V you. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 1946C/15 to GOSSAMER.)

P.38. (A) Leave Patrol after dark 16th through 050° 50' N. 016° 48' W. diving by day routed to R/V in 050° 31' N. 000° 41' W. at 0800A/21.
(B) S.B.R. arranged as follows.
(Capt. S.5. 2030A/15 to P.38)
(Capt. S.5. 2034A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

MAORI. C. in C. W.A. 1328/10. Detach MAORI at best speed to Gibraltar as soon as you join Convoy. (A.C.N.S. H. 2314A/14 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)

S/M 172. MOLODKI S/M 172 returning from Vardo area estimated position 071° 05' N. 033° 10' E. at 0400C returning to base through 070° N. 033° 10' E. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2349C/15 to TRIDENT.)

Operations.

Vestfiord Patrol (TUNA). H L P 16 of 12 November. Cancel para one (b) and reference to position D. in para one (a). From a position South Eastward of position A. reconnoitre inside Fiord for a distance of about 60 miles in a North easterly direction taking observations of both shores in addition to observations previously ordered for area B. On completion leave patrol in accordance with para.4 and in any case to arrive Scapa not later than 30/11.
(F.O.S. 1221A/15 to TUNA.)

/Patrol ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - contd.

Patrol. Brightlingsea auxiliary patrols remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1235A/15.)

Trial KINGFISHER SPANIEL OTWAY. At 0800A/18 intend to sail KINGFISHER, SPANIEL, and OTWAY from Campbeltown to arrive 057° 20' N. 011° 30' W. at 1000A/19 there to carry out special trial for one or 2 days returning to Campbeltown on completion. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection for outward voyage.
(Capt. S.7. 1449A/15.)

Patrol by P.38. Report if you received and decoded my 1434A/14.
(C. in C. W.A. 1821A/15 to MYOSOTIS.)
Your 1821A/15. Reply yes.
(MYOSOTIS 1900Z/15.)
P.38 is patrolling submerged by day within 5 miles of 050° 50' N. 016° 48' W.
(C. in C. W.A. 1918A/15 to WHITEHALL.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. "Polar" in operation from 0830.
(A.C.I.C. 1004/15.)
"Price" is required p.m. today. Object location of enemy supply ship or merchant raider attempting to break out.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1016A/15 to A.O. C. in C. C.C.)
P.R.U. of Trondheim, Bergen and Stavanger in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1245/15.)
Following is a repetition of R.A.F. Iceland's 1140/15 begins. Unable to carry out patrol "Price" from Iceland owing to weather. Will endeavour carry out tomorrow should situation still require. Admiralty 1016A/15 refers.
T.O.O.1140/15.
(A.C.I.C. 1511N/15 to Adty.)
"Stand" in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1604/15.)
My 1004N/15. Returned. Nothing to report.
(A.C.I.C. 1951N/15.)
My 1524Z/13. Request "Polar" may be flown daily commencing 15/11.
(C. in C. H.F. 2246Z/14 to A.C.I.C.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy Q.P.2.

1 aircraft shadowing Convoy Q.P.2. My position 62° 34' N. 5° W., course 160°, speed 8 knots. (ICARUS 0955Z/15.)

Faroes attacked.

One enemy aircraft attacked shipping in Skaale Fiord today. Five bombs dropped, no damage or casualties. A/C circled Skaale Fiord from 0928A to 1005A, during whole of which period it was clearly visible from both Skaale Fiord and Thorshavn.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1050A/15.)

EMPIRE DEFENDER.

Following received at 1624 G.M.T. from FELCE. AAAA 37° 5' N. 8° 35' W.* EMPIRE DEFENDER bombed. (Burnham Radio 1725/15.) * (?E)

Convoy.

Enemy A/C bombing convoy "Paddle" my position 56° 38' N. 2° 6' W. (JASON 1750Z/15.)

Convoy F.S.47. CORHAMPTON (British, 2495 Tons) sunk.

Am standing by CORHAMPTON badly damaged by near miss in 142° 62 D Buoy 2 miles. Send tug. (LOWESTOFT 1915A/15.)
My 1915. CORHAMPTON severely damaged and abandoned. No serious casualties. Am standing by to await tug.
(LOWESTOFT 1954A/15.)
Your 1915. Tug being sent from Humber.
(C. in C. Nore 2037A/15 to LOWESTOFT.)
Your 1954/15. SCOTSMAN sailed. E.T.A. CORHAMPTON 0130/16. (N.O.I.C. Humber 2102A/15 to LOWESTOFT.)
Tug cannot arrive before 0130. Circumstances permitting endeavour to tow CORHAMPTON towards Humber by Swept Channel.
(C. in C. Nore 2131A/15 to LOWESTOFT.)
CORHAMPTON re-boarded and anchored in 53° 50' 30" N. 000° 28' 30" E. Am standing by her. Request fighter protection at dawn N.O.I.C. Humber informed SCOTSMAN.
(LOWESTOFT 2158A/15.)

Peterhead attacked.

At 1805/15 single A/C dropped four bombs Peterhead Bay. No damage or casualties. Shore defences and ships opened fire. Hits appear to have been registered.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1945/15.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Bristol Channel. Exploded Red Mine 1236A/15 in 139° 1.7 miles from Flatholm Light.
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1715A/15.)

Tyne. Detonated 1 red ground magnetic mine at 1118/15 position 077° from North Tyne Pier Light 1 cable.
(N.O.I.C. North Shields 1725/15.)

14th and 15th. M/S Flotillas. Admiralty's 1950A/28/10. Request that the three groups of Oropesa trawlers be sailed to Humber as they become available.
(C. in C. Nore 1820A/15.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Coastal Shipping. The following five vessels are due to complete loading after which they proceed southward. Names. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 1107/15.)

Swedish M/Vs. Swedish SVEAJARL, PERU, and MARGARET JOHNSON expected to leave Gothenburg for South America at 0600/16. 2. Speed 12 knots routed as A.M. 1143/7/10.
(D.O.D. H. 1658A/15.)

Unknown ship. Possible unidentified plot was Berry Head 12 at 2222, course 028°, 10 knots. Motor launch on patrol investigating.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2234/15.)

Navigational.

58 A. Buoy. 960 Q.Z.H. Yarmouth area. Number 58A Buoy light reported extinguished.
(Hydrog 0025A/15.)

Ice at Archangel. Archangel 6 to 12 inches thick encountered from Modyugski Island. Movements of Minesweepers up to Ekonomia possible with ice-breakers but very slow. Minimum temperature last two days increased to 25° F.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1016C/15.)

/Kola Inlet ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational - contd.

Kola Inlet A/S Defences. Request confirmation that all H.M. Ships have been warned in the sense of my 2211C/7/10. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1221C/15.)

58 A.Buoy. Reported damaged and light extinguished. (F.O. Humber 1422A/15.)

Wreck. Steamship HARROGATE reports sighting what appeared to be mast of a wreck in approaches to Dundee in about 56° 25' N. 02° 35' 30" W. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1718/15.)

North Dvina Light Vessel. Removed for the winter. Request A.G.M. may be issued. Admiralty pass to 10th C.S. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2225C/13.)
Dvina light vessel No.964 withdrawn for the winter. (Hydrog. 2240A/15.)

Technical.

Minor war Vessels Recognition Signals. Your 1624/14. Consider it most important that minor war vessels should have one letter only to handle. Also consider it important to divorce minor war vessels letters from private signals in order that the latter can be changed rapidly in the event of compromise.
Recommend adoption of second alternative but consider last sentence should be reworded "Minor war vessel identification letters to be used by all warships to shore batteries and minor defended ports and to be used by minor war vessels when entering major defended ports".
Consider the use of un co-ordinated identification signals by major and minor war vessels entering major defended ports should be accepted in view of simplification in minor war vessel recognition signals which will be achieved thereby.
(C. in C. Nore 2020A/15 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

HARMONY. (Motor Fishing Vessel) Sank at 0750/15/11 Invergordon in position Dockyard Pier 110° 6 Cables after alleged collision with No.23 Buoy. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1538/15.)

ALBURY. My 1050/10 and 1012/15. Sailing postponed 24 hours owing fracture main suction pipe. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1550/15.)

VENOMOUS. Request you will sail VENOMOUS in tow of MASTODONTE for Greenock p.m. tomorrow. Fighter co-operation will be arranged by F.O.I.C. Greenock.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1914A/15 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

KEPPEL. F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1904A/13. Sailed KEPPEL 2035A/15 for Newport.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2035A/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.14.
BEAUFORT. My 0719/14 para 3. Sailing date delayed two days. (D.S.T. 0420A/15.)
If working up practices can be completed in time it is intended that BEAUFORT will sail with convoy W.S.14.
2. Request you will confirm in due course that ship will be ready and sail her for Londonderry to complete with fuel before joining the convoy a.m./4th.
(D.O.D. H. 1811A/15 to R.A.D.)

P.Q.
Convoys. Maclay and I agree on following suggested programme for Convoys to Archangel, aiming at maximum supply of cargo to Russia during winter months.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0905C/13) (Maclay, Archangel 1015/13) See Lion Copy.
Your 1759R/12. Arrangements as follows. Details.
(A.C.N.S. T. 2156A/15) See Lion Copy.

P.Q.4.
Q.P.4. (3 corrupt groups). Request approx. date of arrival of P.Q.4 may be signalled as soon as possible. (?S.B.N.O. North Russia 1055/15.)
C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14. BERWICK can accommodate 35 officers and 500 men. ONSLOW, OFFA, 4 officers and (?30) men if essential. Admiralty please pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia and Archangel and Admiral Miles.
(BERWICK 1350Z/15 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

/My 1423/10 ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.4. Q.P.4. contd.
My 1423/10 para. (III) and (IV). Ocean Escort is to carry out the same procedure with convoy P.Q.4 and Q.P.4. Admiralty please pass to North Russia and Archangel and Admiral Miles.
(C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14 to BERWICK, D.17, OFFA.)

Air Personnel for U.K. Q.P.3. P.Q.4.
Your 2218/14. S.B.N.O. Archangel reports arrangements to accommodate total of 7 Officers and 60 airmen of 151 Wing in Q.P.3, personnel being transferred from Murmansk to Archangel by 1st M.S.F.
2. This arrangement, plus numbers catered for in C.S.10's 1759/12, makes it unnecessary for escorts of P.Q.4 to proceed to Murmansk.
3. Admiral Miles 1153/12 reported Polish personnel will not be available for passage for about 5 weeks.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1417A/15.)
Admiral Miles 1153D/12 C.S.10, 1759Z/12 and C. in C. H.F. 2218Z/14.
Unless Poles can arrive in time to embark in ocean escort Q.P.4 E.T.A. approx. 30/11 recommend in order to avoid over crowding of KENYA, BEDOUIN, and INTREPID that withdrawal of 151 wing be shared between these ships and ocean escort S.Q.P.4 and that Poles be embarked by ocean escort S.Q.P.5 and Q.P.6.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1840C/15, 1846/17)

H.X.159.
SUNFLOWER, KINGCUP, and ALISMA have been ordered to proceed forthwith to meet H.X.159 and carry out sweep within 20 miles of convoy until M.O.M.P. is reached.
(D.T.D. 1452Z/15 to Opnav.)

Q.P.3.
Subject to concurrence of S.O. C.S.10 intend sailing Q.P.3, (24?) Nov. Admiralty pass to all addresses except S.O. M/S 1.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1600C/13.)

F.S. and F.N. Convoys.
(Cycle and Escorts) Your 2028/14. Proposals.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1631/15.)
(C. in C. Nore 1830A/15) See Lion Copy.

/Convoys ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

Convoys in W.A.

S.O's of escorts are to report immediately to C. in C. W.A. if at any time they have any doubt whatsoever as to the safety of any of their group who may have been detached for special duties in their vicinity. Captains D. pass to escorts.
(C. in C. W.A. 1721A/15.)

EMPIRE WIDGEON. EMPIRE EGRET.

It is requested that EMPIRE WIDGEON and EMPIRE EGRET (both 16 Kn.) may be sailed from Liverpool to Newport as soon as they have completed unloading.
2. They are expected to be ready to sail a.m./18.
(D.O.D. H. 1813A/15.

E.N.6. E.N.7.

Cancel my 2152A/11. ST. CLEARS, EMPIRE STEVENSON, SOUTHGATE and TREHATA are to proceed to Kirkwall for onward convoy to Hvalfjord. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to have ST. CLEARS now in E.N.6 diverted to Kirkwall. Remainder are to sail in E.N.7.
(D.T.D. 2129A/15.)

P.Q.5.

Your 1805Z/14. Provisional date of sailing P.Q.5. from Hvalfiord is 25/11. Following British ships for inclusion in this convoy will be ready to sail from Kirkwall to Iceland (C) on 18/11. ST. CLEARS, EMPIRE STEVENSON, SOUTHGATE, TREHATA. May HAZARD, HEBE, and SHARPSHOOTER escort these ships from Kirkwall to Iceland (C). 2. Following six ships from U.S.A. are expected to arrive Iceland (C) for P.Q.5 on approx. dates shown. EULIMA 15/11. PETROVSKI, MERIDIAN, EL OCEANO 21/11. KOMILES, CHUMLEIGH 23/11.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2155A/15.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Aircraft ex ARK ROYAL.	10 Swordfish and 4 Fulmars from ARK ROYAL landed Gibraltar. 812 Sqn. reformed at North Front 14/11 with initial equipment of 9 Swordfish under command of Lieut. G.A.L. Woods R.N. (F.O.C.N.A., 1038A/15 to Admty).
SHEAF CROWN.	Admty 2030A/10. SHEAF CROWN sailing 1200/15 Has orders to report at Gibraltar if speed still unsatisfactory. Request air (?cover) daylight hours 16/11. Presumed speed 7½ knots. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1106/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ARK ROYAL (sunk 14/11)	My 1948/14. One casualty only in ARK ROYAL. (S.O. Force H., 1121A/15 1444A/15, 2051A/15 to Admty, Admty 1258A/15).
AUDACITY. Aircraft	If 3 Martlets as I.E. replacement for No. 802 Sqn. (F.A.A.) can be shipped to Gibraltar then AUDACITY could operate from Gibraltar until January and carry out some offensive operations against Focke Wulfe. (AUDACITY, 1315A/15 to C. in C. W.A.) My 1215/9. Positions given for Martlet and two F.W. 200 aircraft should read 041° 28' N., 015° 18' W., 041° 09' N., 014° 30' W., 041° 18' N., 015° 28' W., respectively. (AUDACITY, 1331A/15 to C. in C. W.A.)
ARGUS, ?Operation "Chieftain.	Your 2254/14, para (B). Consider that ARGUS should sail with NELSON to lend more colour to the deception but that it is not necessary for ATHENE to sail. Whether ARGUS remains at sea for 24 hours or longer is at your discretion. (V.C.N.S. 1331A/15 to S.O. Force H).
Gibraltar.	Extension proposed to eastern limit of Gibraltar Intelligence Area. Requesting remarks. (D.N.I., 1900A/15 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med). See Lion Copy.
French Shipping.	Destroyer BRESTOIS and armed trawler SERGENT GOUARNE escorting French M/Vs. MEDIE II, IMERETHIE II, light, both carrying civilian passengers, OUERGHA with deck cargo of heavy lorries, ARCTURUS fully laden, and CARIMARE laden, passed Gibraltar westbound at 0935/15. (D.O.R., 16/11, 17/11)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Convoys. Asking for permission for Union Director of Information to photograph convoys off Union ports. Reasons. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0939B/15 to Admty). See Lion Copy

LAFONIA. Your 0454/14. LAFONIA due Capetown 20/11. Request I may now be informed as to extent of fitting required so that most convenient port may be selected.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1223B/15 to D. of S.T.)

PRINCE BAUDOUIN. My 1603/7. Expected sailing date for PRINCE BAUDOUIN provided trials are satisfactory is now P.M./23. My 2128/14 to C. in C. Med., only refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1223B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

40th Escort Group. Information is requested as to when 40th Escort Group will be required to sail.
(LANDGUARD, 1238N/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1238N/15. Probably A.M./21.
(C. in C. S.A., 1555N/15 to LANDGUARD).

Repatriation of SHAHRISTAN survivors. Your 1106N/14. Dutch Authorities would object unless BAARN is escorted to and from Ponta Delgada. Can escort be arranged conveniently without unduly reducing escort with convoy?
(D.T.D., 2110A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

EMPIRE GUILLEMOT (sunk, A/C, 24/10) Now known that 35 survivors landed but 2 died later. 11 others reported to have been killed Ship sunk by torpedo carrying A/C on 24/10 while on passage from Malta to Gibraltar.
(D.S., 802, 15/11)

/Enemy....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Intelligence, TORBAY.

Intelligence for 8th Army (Non-naval).
2 separate Arabian sources report Tobruk about to be attacked by parachutes and rubber boats. Latter seen proceeding east in lorries at (?Slonta). Attack scheduled 12th postponed due to strong south wind.
(TORBAY, 0002B/15 to Capt. S.1)

TORBAY, TALISMAN, landing operation.

TORBAY landing ordered, beach completed. Proceeding seawards with intelligence report. Am not proceeding patrol due to defect blank. TALISMAN ordered to report results separately, request information as to result. Safety sector continues until TALISMAN completes.
(TORBAY, 0042B/5 to Capt. S.1)
My 0042. Operation carried out in circumstances preventing recovery of rubber boats latter hidden near beach. TALISMAN reports 10 soldiers washed overboard in boat probably reached shore. Of 18 remaining on board only 6 properly equipped. 8 boats remain but both folding boats broken. Weather conditions preclude land and inter S/M communication. Consider advisable to abandon landing and suggest re-embarkation undertaken by TORBAY only from main beach (?as directed) by headquarters party guarding boats, all concerned transferring to alternative beach if necessary. Your 1416/23/10 understood but considered unsuitable.
(TORBAY, 2204B/15 to Capt. S.1)
W.R. Note. Text of sentence commencing with word "consider" is doubtful.

Enemy Units.

3 Cruisers, 2 destroyers 039° 40' N., 017° 30' E., Course 150° speed 25 knots.
(V.A. Malta, 0401B/15 to S/Ms on patrol)
A.S.V. Wellington reports sighting at 2115, 5 ships, probably 3 cruisers 2 destroyers (P.C.S. as 0401B/15).
(V.A. Malta, 0415B/15 to C. in C. Med).

PERSEUS.

Engineer Officer arrived today. PERSEUS leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2200B/15 through 033° 40' 020° 00' to arrive 033° 00' 020° 00' about 1900B/17 thence to patrol in Area C unless otherwise ordered. (Capt. S.10., 0950B/15 to Capt. S.1)

/Benghazi....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Benghazi, Bardia, Barce, bombed.	Night 13/14, 8 Wellingtons dropped bombs on bases of Moles Benghazi harbour, 3 dropped bombs on Derna causing explosions. 1 Wellington with engine trouble dropped bombs on Bardia. Day 14/11, at midday 6 Marylands bombed Barce landing ground. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1113/15).
URGE, UTMOST.	Leave patrol to pass 037° 30' 019° 40' at 2100B/17, thence direct to 035° 51' 015° 15' to arrive Malta 0730B/20. UTMOST leave second position given about 2200B/15 direct to arrive 037° 40' 019° 38' about 0001B/18. S/Ms encountered are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1125B/15 to URGE).
THUNDERBOLT, TRUSTY.	THUNDERBOLT leaving 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/15 direct for position K, 038° 40' 019° 37', on patrol line 2 - 038° 40' 019° 37' - 310° - 20' - 040° - 55 on which TRUSTY will shortly proceed to second patrol J. Ref. sailing orders para. 5 if force to N.W.do not proceed North of 038° 20'. (Capt. S.10., 1150B/15 to UPRIGHT).
GLAUCOS.	From 035° 47' 020° 00' proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° 53' to arrive Marsamxett 0730B/19. Submarines encountered at night after 1900B/17 are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1203B/15 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS)
Movements.	Summary 223. (C. in C. Med., 1207B/15) See Lion Copy.
Russian Ships from Black Sea.	My 1944/14 Russian N.A. has now been informed that first ships may arrive Istahbul in one week's time. In order that he can arrange with his Govt. for arrival of ships to synchronise with arrival of British Officer request early information as possible of date of arrival of latter. (A.N.A., Istanbul, 1624B/15 to C. in C. Med.).

/FRONSAC....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

FRONSAC French.	Arrival 14th. (Barcelona, 1657/15 to M. of W.T.)
Bosphorus Boom.	Entire Bosphorus boom including gate vessel lighter dragged for distance 600 feet at worst Trotman to 200 feet at other in N.E. gale. Only shore connections holding and gate open. (Measures to replace) 4. I consider that Dardanelles boom if laid with moorings as shown in drawing 497/1 will be useless. (A.N.A. Istanbul, 1715B/15 to Admty).
Brindisi, Catania, bombed.	Night 14/15. Wellingtons, Maples and Brindisi. 1 reached Brindisi and attacked 2015 to 2156 hours. Bursts all over town. Alternative Messina under cloud, 19 Wellingtons attacked second alternative railway marshalling yards Catania. North Sicilian Railway believed out of action all traffic passing through Catania. Attacked 1740 to 2309 hours. (H.Q., Malta, 1731/15).
Intelligence Organization.	My 1219/18/10, para 10. Following rearrangement, Intelligence Organization is to take place (C. in C. Med., 1731B/15 to Med Stn. C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.
Suez included in Red Sea Force.	Intend report arrivals and departures H.M.S. at Suez as from 16/11. (F.O.C.R.S., 1802B/15 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area).
PHOEBE.	Your 1211/13. Yes. (C. in C. Med., 1820B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
German Ship.	Arrival unknown German steamer 14/11 Mazarron to load iron ore. (Cartagena, 2030/15 to M. of W.T.)
Minesweepers Renamed.	Your 1621B/13. Approval given for renaming of M/S Groups 156 and 157 as follows:- GOS 7 CALM, KOS 12 HAILSTORM, KOS 7 DAYBREAK, KOS 9 FIRMAMENT. Request you will take necessary action. (Head of M., 2049A/15 to C. in C. Med).
EMPIRE DEFENDER.	British, 5649 tons, reported to have been bombed by enemy A/C at 1724/15 about 30 miles S.W. of Galita Island. No details. (D.O.R.16/11).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Shipping Reports.	Your 1632/12 (see China, 12/11) (1) Local coastwise traffic only (2) Yes. (C. in C. E.I. 0432Z/15 to Admty.)
MARIT MAERSK, GIORGIOS AVEROFF.	Request information on what basis MARIT MAERSK is working for Greek Admiralty as present employment as tender to Greek cruiser GIORGIOS AVEROFF for coal appears uneconomical. (2) GIORGIOS AVEROFF is now based on Bombay and as far as can be seen will continue to operate from that port where there are now Admiralty stocks of Welsh coal. (C. in C. E.I., 0540Z/15 to Admty.)
Convoys C.M. 21. C.M. 23.	Your 1201/14. 1. Escort can be provided at Durban 26th. 2. Request firm date of sailing of C.M. 23 as soon as known. (C. in C. E.I., 0648Z/15 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)
Convoy U.S.13.	U.S.13. escorted by CORNWALL sailed from Trincomalee 0730Z/15. (C. in C. E.I. 1130Z/15 to Admty.)
Floating Dock at Bandar Gulf.	Mooring can be raised and re-equipped, but not until dock has been removed. Time required about 14 days. Voyage of dock estimated 45 days. (ii) 2 tugs of 1000 horse-power are available within 14 days. Dock can be made ready in that time but towing gear which I suggest is necessary and not available here is (details). (iii) Dock Master was Italian Aguari now in M.E. under examination by Intelligence. Dock crew are Persians. I have not opened the subject of their transfer yet in view of possible objection by Persian Govt. to removal of dock. Minister of Teheran telegram no. 15 to you refers. (S.N.O.P.G. 1643Z/15 to C. in C. E.I.)
Ceylon.	Your 15368/G of 16/10 (T.O.O. 2126/16 re scale of attack on Ceylon) Confirmed that defence works should be constructed to meet estimated scale of attack of two divisions. (W.O. 1945/15 to C. in C. India.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Navigation. Following track re-surveyed by Netherlands authorities and reported clear of all navigational dangers. (Hydrog, 1635A/15 to S.O. Force G.) See Lion Copy.

ENDEAVOUR. Ref. C. in C. Med's 1321B/21/10. It is proposed to send ENDEAVOUR for survey duty in Red Sea and Eastern Med. 2. C. in C., China is requested to report to what extent a navigating crew could be provided from local resources, utilising as necessary ratings awaiting passage to U.K. 3. If this is practicable, C. in C., Med. is requested to provide reliefs for men due to return to U.K. Exchange to take place at Suez. (V.C.N.S. 2048A/15 to C. in C. China, C. in C. Med.)

America and West Indies.

Signalling. Admty. 1233A/16/9. Details of watch which can be kept by Commercial W/T Stations other than Canadian will be forwarded at an early date. Meanwhile request decision on following (1) Owing to shortage of personnel, fuel-time H/F Watch not possible in all cases but dual H/F and 500 Kc/s could be carried out. Is this principle acceptable? (2) Jamaica radio carries out 6 H/F Schedules daily over which channel a small volume of traffic with United Fruit Co. Vessels is handled. Total not more than one hour per week. (C. in C. A.W.I., 11210/15 to Admty.)

WYOMING (French) Intercepted air letter from Casablanca states WYOMING expected to leave about 13/11 for Martinique. Has this voyage been approved? (C. in C. A.W.I., 12190/15 to Admty., B.A.D.) Reply: D.E.W.D. 1602A/16.

/ILLUSTRIOUS.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.-Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS, FORMIDABLE deliveries of aircraft.

My 1759/14. Apparent that schedule for delivery of Martlets quoted in Briny 10345 will not be met. This schedule was based on Admiral Towers' letter to British Air Commision.
2. Resident British Air Commission inspector estimates total deliveries at 18 by 30/11, 20 by 4/12, 22 by 10/12, 42 by 31/12.
3. Grummans production manager promises: 24 by 30/11, 26 by 4/12, 32 by 10/12, 48 by 31/12. 6. Sailings on 2/12 will adversely affect supply of spares to these ships.
7. Request instructions for FORMIDABLE and ILLUSTRIOUS may now be communicated in light of this information and my 1759R/14. (B.A.D. 1231R/15 to Admty.)

CLARKIA.

Your 16529/11. CLARKIA can be accepted at Alabama Dry Dock and S.B.Co., Mobile, Alabama, Job number S.232. Request date she may be expected. (B.A.R.M. 1324R/15 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

CARNARVON CASTLE.

Your 1657A/11. CARNARVON CASTLE can be accepted at Newport News S.B. Co., Newport News, Virginia. Job number S.231. (B.A.R.M. 1326R/15 to Admty.)

DIDO.

Completes ex trials Wednesday 3/12. (B.A.R.M. 1330R/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

T.C.16., LETITIA.

My 2049Z/12 para. 3.
New York reports LETITIA undergoing trial Newport News 30/11. Expect to commence storing and loading at New York 3/12.(Ends) My 2138Z/13 also refers. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1412Z/15 to D. of S.T.)

CITY OF ELWOOD.

Have you any news of American CITY OF ELWOOD due Balboa 11/11 from Melbourne? (D.T.D. 1709A/15 to S.O.I. Jamaica).

Liaison with U.S.N.

Ref. proposals 3 and 4 in N.A. Rio's 1941Z/4 to D.N.I. Navy Dept. have informed us verbally they do not wish to go beyond proposals in Gleam 155 at present. (B.A.D. 1747R/15 to Admty.)

/S.C. 53.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15 JA.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

S.C.53. — Serial 15. S.C.53 (? Fast escort vessels) SWEETBRIAR, HIBISCUS and PERIWINKLE have been ordered to sail from Londonderry as soon as possible to R/V with S.C.53 as far West as convenient and act as a striking force within 20 miles of convoy until M.O.M.P. (U.S.C.N.O., 1829Z/15 to Comtask Unit 4.1.14)

CHELATROS (Greek). — Ran aground Brion Island at 0815/3 while en route Montreal to Sydney. Considered total loss. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2029Z/15).

Australia.

U.S.14. — My 0645/16, Admty. 0139A/30, D. of S.T. 1456A/4. Total requirements U.S. 14 (figures). In view neither QUEEN MARY or QUEEN ELIZABETH can be handled New Zealand propose their docking programme be allowed to stand. AQUITANIA has been allotted New Zealand. Request therefore vessel with lift of 3000 be made available. Present intention U.S.14 sail from Sydney 27/12 in order to arrive Suez during safe moon by 19/1. (A.C.N.B., 0429Z/15 to D. of S.T.)

New Zealand.

Shipping Reports. — Your 1632A/12 (see China 12/11) (1) Local ships proceeding coastwise on station. (2) Yes. (N.Z.N.B. 0020Z/15, 0120Z/15 to Admty.).

Suspicious Ships? — Your 0801Z/14. (N.T. in W.D.) Consider use of anchorages in this area most unlikely since coast watch and teleradio system now very complete. Air R/C to locate unreached sightings desirable but available aircraft have insufficient range. (N.Z.N.B. 2355/15 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.11.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

PERU. (Torpedoed 12/11.)

Ops. summary for 13/11. 1705 search for survivors of S.S. PERU believed sunk 1° 15' N., 12° 28' W., nothing seen. (A.H.Q., West Africa, 0825/15, to Air Min.)

Russian Minesweeper.

Russian Minesweeper reported sunk by U-boat off Cape Orlov in 067° 30' N., 041° 11' E., at 2025/15. Minesweepers proceeding to hunt. Admiralty pass to all addressees except S.B.N.O. North Russia. (S.B.N.O.Archangel, 22490/15 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

1215Z/14.

Following received from U.S. Naval Authorities (begins):- Task Unit 4.1.1 reports definite sound contact submarine 62° 53 N., 24° 30 W. 1215Z/14. (Ends.) (D.D.I.C. 0026A/15 to A.C.I.C., etc.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1413A/15, 1414A/15.)

Submarines Attacked.

By ACANTHUS.

At 1228 obtained R.D.F. contact in 050° 20' N., 017° 22' W., target apparently moving N.E., range 7000 yards. At 1233 lost contact, target not sighted owing to bad visibility. At 1240 ACANTHUS obtained A/S contact and attacked, result unknown, have searched area unsuccessfully, am proceeding with ACANTHUS to join S.L.91. Course 076° speed 14 knots. Weather Report. (MYOSOTIS, 1245Z/15, to C. in C.W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Weather. A gale is blowing, causing dislocation of shipping. Peterhead Harbour is only open for use in emergency.

Q.P. Convoys. C. in C. H.F. proposes that with the long hours of darkness and reduced air activity from Norway the Q.P. convoys should disperse after reaching longitude 15° E. and should return independently unless it is necessary for them to proceed through Denmark Strait or to reassemble for onward routeing, in which case they should be routed to Iceland (C). Fighter protection will be provided near the Faroes.

Casualties. CHELSEA reported at 0500A having been in collision with one of her convoy (O.N.36) and lost 6 ft. of stern in 59.00 N., 08.18 W. She was returning to Liverpool and did not need assistance.

L.L. trawler PRESIDENT BRIAND went ashore at 1045 about a mile west of Shoreham and had to be abandoned.

British Air Operations.

Patrols were flown today north-east and south-west of Iceland (C) to intercept any enemy units which might be breaking out into the Atlantic north about.

8 A/C of Bomber Command attacked the Germania Werke, Kiel last night, 23 attacked the docks at Emden and 3 those at Boulogne.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler FERNBANK A.910 was bombed and sunk at 1400 today, 12 miles N.W. of Myggenaes.

Examination vessel MINNA was damaged by near miss at 1750 today in 56° 4' 36" N. 2° 51' 12" W. and was towed to Leith.

Convoy F.S.48 was attacked at 1644 in 53° 48' N. 0° 53' E. At 1710 S.S. ROBERT W. POMEROY in this convoy was slightly damaged by near miss near 62 B Buoy.

Mining.

5 aircraft laid mines in the Elbe estuary last night.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Chieftain". NELSON sailed from Gibraltar tonight for the U.K. with HERMIONE, ARGUS and 3 destroyers; the ships of Force H. (except destroyers) will part company at 1845A/17 to return to Gibraltar (see also 17/11). In order to deceive the Italians 6 merchant ships were escorted out of Gibraltar eastward just before dark, and broke off at intervals after dark and returned to Gibraltar independently, whilst the escorting vessels (DEPTFORD, WILD SWAN and 5 corvettes) carried out an A/S sweep before returning.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

There have been various reports lately that the French S/M depot ship JULES VERNE at Dakar proceeds to sea from time to time to refuel U-boats.

Mediterranean.

Operation B.S. — An important southbound convoy was sighted at 1600B today off Brindisi and is expected to pass westward of Cephalonia and Zante during daylight hours tomorrow. A concerted operation by SOKOL, URGE, UPRIGHT and THUNDERBOLT in the Ionian Sea has been arranged, whilst UTMOST, P.34, PERSEUS and UNBEATEN are to take up positions nearer Tripoli. URSULA and Greek S/M GLAUCOS are also to try to intercept.

Libya and Western Desert. — R.A.F. continued last night and today their attacks on Italian targets.

China.

CENTURION. — The disguise of the dummy battleship CENTURION is understood to have been penetrated in the Red Sea. S.O. Force G. proposes that the ship should not be used until after the end of January when 5 or 6 genuine capital ships should have been identified by the Japanese in Eastern waters.

U-Boat Campaign.

MARIGOLD sank a U-boat (apparently U.433) late tonight in 36° 13' N. 4° 42' W. and picked up 34 German survivors.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A/C reports of Enemy M/V's.

Following received from C.C.N.F. begins. 1415/16 from A/C Duty L. Request such reports may be repeated on Broadcast H.D. 1644Z/16 Ends. (D.C. 2210A/16 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Co-operation with Russia.

Minesweepers in North Russia.

Your 2130C/15. Minesweepers can be based in Kola Inlet when required. After fuelling one vessel will leave for Polyarno (? remainder) at anchorages between Pattan and Mishukov Point. Admiralty pass to S.O. 1st M/S Flotilla and C. in C. H.F. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1314C/16 to S.O. 1st M/S F.)

Movements.

HAZARD.
HEBE.

Sailed HAZARD and HEBE in accordance with my 1504A/15. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0344A/16).

RUBIS. (Operation F.D.35).

Intend to sail RUBIS escorted by LOCH MONTEITH passing Bell Rock 1800A/18 Northabout and through Minches for position 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles, E.T.A. 1800A/22.
(2) Thence RUBIS unescorted dive by day through 048° N. 6° W. to carry out operation F.D.35.
(4) On completion of operation F.D. 35 RUBIS is to return through 048° 06' N. 006° 32' W. to R/V with LOCH MONTEITH at 0930A in 180° The Lizard 3.5 miles for escort into Falmouth. LOCH MONTEITH will be at R/V between 0930A and 1530A on 1st December and subsequent days until RUBIS is met.
(7) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange for fighter protection for passage from Dundee to Wolf Rock. (Capt. S.9. 1105A/16).

CASTLETON.

CASTLETON proceed to Greenock with S.D.16 where spare armature will be fitted. My 1539/14 refers. (R.A.M. 1129/16 to CASTLETON).

/Floating.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

Floating Crane.	A.M. 0031A/14 and 2237A/11/10. Expect floating crane to be ready for sea P.M./17th. Intend to sail 1130/18 to Yarmouth I.O.W. and from Needles 0900/19 for Clyde in tow of tugs. EMPIRE HENCHMAN and DANUBE VI escorted by BERKELEY and A.S. Trawlers. Tow will be swept on Q.Z.S. 293 by L.L. Sweepers as far as 20 fm. line C. in C. Plymouth is requested to relieve Portsmouth escort before dark on 20/11 when it is anticipated tow will be between Eddystone and Lizard. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1233A/16).
VENOMOUS.	Your 1143A/16. Approved to delay sailing VENOMOUS and MASTODONTE until weather is more settled. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1314A/16 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea).
K.22.	Your 1545A/11 and my 1710C/14. K.22 clear area. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1316C/16).
KENYA.	Arrangements have been made for fuelling KENYA inside or outside Bar according to ice and weather. (2) No arrangements made for fuelling escorts in view of M.S. one's 2358C/15. (3) Sea Pilot for Murmansk will board you on arrival. Admiralty pass to 10th C.S. and 1st M/S F. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1634C/16 to 10th C.S.)
Personnel for Fleet.	Your 0927Z/13 and 1805Z/14. Eight Officers and about 150 Ratings are awaiting passage to Fleet. Can arrangements be made for the Cruiser to escort P.Q.5 to proceed from Scapa to Hvalfjord. (A.C.O.S. 1826A/16 to C. in C. H.F.)
O.9. ST. OLAVES.	Submarine O.9. escorted by Torpedo Boat Z.5. leave Clyde 2200A/16 bound for Tobermory, 9 knots through North Channel, Sounds of Islay and Mull, and may be met during night. (C. in C. W.A. 1846A/16 to ST. OLAVES). My 1151A/13. Sailed Z.5 and O.9. one hour early. E.T.A. not affected. (Capt. S.7. 2101A/16).

/RESOLUTION.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

RESOLUTION. A.M. 1645/8 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1756/13. When ready for sea C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail RESOLUTION for Scapa to work up under C. in C. H.F. who is requested to report when ship is ready for service.
2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to provide escort of two destroyers to Scapa. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to lend one destroyer to Plymouth during this period. (A.C.N.S. H. 1917A/16).

RAMILLIES. NELSON. A.M. 1643A/8 and F.O.C.N.A's 1038A/16. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail RAMILLIES from Liverpool as requisite to R/V with NELSON for onward passage in company to Pentland Firth.
2. On arrival in Pentland Firth RAMILLIES is to proceed to Scapa and NELSON to Rosyth.
3. R.A.D. H.F. is requested to provide escorts to meet NELSON and RAMILLIES north of Ireland (R) as arranged by C. in C. W.A.
4. On relief by H.F. destroyers, destroyers of Force H are to proceed to Londonderry for fuel and to await further orders.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2006A/16).

Operations.

M.G.B. Engagement off Blanc Nez. M.G.B's 312 and 314 damaged. From 1835 to 2150 last night R.D.F. plotted several small surface craft from a position northward of Boulogne to the vicinity of Gravelines.
M.G.B's 316-312-314 and 317 were sent to intercept, contact being made off Blanc Nez at 2045.
Enemy are reported as 6 or 7 E/R boats and at least one vessel possibly trawler or coaster type.
A short sharp engagement followed during which casualties and damage were inflicted and received.
Enemy shore defences were also in action.
Our casualties M.G.B. 312, one rating killed, one Officer and three ratings wounded.
Considerable damage to M.G.B. 312 and slight damage to 314.
M.G.B. 312 returned to harbour at 2220 and remainder at 1100 this morning after searching for A/C casualty resulting from air attack on enemy vessels at 2240.
(V.A. Dover 1307/16).

/TIGRIS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

TIGRIS Patrol. A. When ready about 19/11 TIGRIS is to be sailed for a patrol in zone C.1 on a line about 10 to 15 miles off the coast. Object to attack enemy cruisers and above. Subsidiary object to attack and report northbound merchant vessels if in company with cruisers and above. (F.O.S. 1311A/16).

British Air Activity.

Patrols. "Polar" in operation from 0800. (A.C.I.C. 0941N/16).
"Trost" is required today. Object location of enemy supply ship or merchant raider outward bound. (A.C.N.S. H. 1133A/16).
My 0941N/16. Nil report. (A.C.I.C. 1754N/16)
"Price" to be flown from 1200 to dusk tomorrow. Reply immediately if unable to comply. (H.Q.C.C. 1930/16 to R.A.F. Iceland).
A.M. 1016A/15. "Price" is required again tomorrow. (A.C.N.S. H. 2005A/16).

Bombing operations. From day 10/11 to day 15/11 inclusive, no operations took place owing to unfavourable weather. On Night 15/16 eight A/C bombed Kiel, 23 attacked Emden, and 3 bombed Boulogne. (H.Q.B.C. 1500/16).

Enemy Air Activity.

CORHAMPTON (Bombed 15/11) Efforts to take CORHAMPTON in tow have proved unsuccessful. SCOTSMAN arrived and reports she cannot take her in tow until daylight. CORHAMPTON's cable has slipped and now adrift and reabandoned. Intend standing by and escorting when in tow. (LOWESTOFT 0244A/16). CORHAMPTON sank in approx. 53° 53' 30" N. 0° 26' E. (approx. 013° one mile from 62.E buoy), at 0855 Master and entire crew of 23 (including 4 D.E.M.S.) landed Grimsby by LOWESTOFT. No casualites. (LOWESTOFT 0925A/16, 0959A/16, 1252A/16, Base Grimsby, 1525A/16, F.O. Humber 1543A/16).

Convoy F.S.48 attacked. Enemy aircraft attacking convoy "Plumb" in 53° 48' N. 0° 33' E. (WHADDON 1644/16).

Burnham attacked. Report on last night's damage as follows. Casualties 2, very slight. Damage nil. (R.N.O. Burnham 1158/16)

MOST SECRET.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.25 C. — Intend to carry out as follows. Details. (R.A.M. 1046/16) See Lion Copy.

Clearances required. — Details. Request you give orders to 13th M/S F. (A.C.N.S. H. 1552A/16 to C. in C. Nore) See Lion Copy.

Thames Estuary. — One magnetic mine detonated as follows at 1855/15. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1603/16).
There was considerable enemy air activity over the Barrow Deep and Inner Estuary between 1850 and 2010 on night 15/16. Mines are suspected as reported in extended defences Officers 0935 in Boom Area and Approach Channels, and also in Southern end Black Deep and near S.W. Gunfleet Buoy. One A/C dropped a mine which exploded on Northern end of East Barrow Sand. At about 1950 a heavy explosion occurred in the air over Shoeburyness, and at 1926 there was an explosion in the area of the Alexandria Channel. Between 1903 and 1937 four explosions occurred in Shoeburyness area which appeared to be bombs with a delay action of one minute.
Reports show possibility of No. 5 Barrow "J" and Letchworth wreck buoys being used as Navigational aids to Aircraft. There were suggestive R.D.F. Plots in South Edinburgh and Knob Channels. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1724/16).

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Coastal Shipping. — It has been reported, graded B.2., that vessels are due to complete loading as follows prior to sailing Southward from Norwegian ports. Details. (D.D.I.C. 1201A/16).

M/V's off Faroes. — A/C on Patrol "Frice" reported a M/V in 62° 4' N. 8° 10' W. at 1440/15 and another M/V fully illuminated in (?62° 28' N. 8° 22' W.) at 1945/15. The former remains unidentified. The latter was probably DANAHOLM which cleared Skopen Fjord 1245/15. (A.C.O.S. 1250A/16).
One enemy M/V not exceeding 10,000 tons bearing 080° 6 miles, course 210°, position 62° 32' N. 9° 17' W. based on fix obtained within half hour of 0700. (A/C Duty L. 210 Sqdn. 1259Z/16 to 15 Group H.Q.)

/One.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

M/V's off Faroes - Contd.

One M/V not exceeding 10,000 tons, course 200°, speed 10 knots. May I attack. (A/C Duty L. 210 Sqdn. 1415/16 to 15th R/C Group H/Q).
Your 1327A/16. DANAHOLM and UDDEHOLM descriptions. HAMILTON or similar does not appear, but SERVICE probably misreading of SVERIGE. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1520A/16 to A.C.O.S.)
Following is a repetition of my 1359A/16 to C. in C. H.F. Begins. My 1250/16. Position at 1945/15 should read 61° 28' N. 8° 22' W. (A.C.O.S. 1541A/16 to C. in C. H.F.)

Navigational.

Peterhead.

Harbour open for use in emergency. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1004/16).

Kola Inlet A/S Defences.

S.B.N.O. North Russia requests confirmation that all H.M. Ships have been warned in the sense of Adty. 1735A/14/10. Presume this has been done. (A.C.N.S. H. 1921A/16).

Technical.

Minor Warship Recognition Signals.

Your 1624/14. In view of strong probability of Aircraft letters being compromised early, greatly prefer number one. (C. in C. H.F. 2016Z/16 to Adty.)

Oiling at Sea.

Engineer Admiral on my Staff, Capt. D. Greenock and representatives of D.N.C. Bath and D.O.S. have inspected Oilers BLACK RANGER and ALDERSDALE. Rangerclass Oilers are unsuitable for oiling operations in Atlantic. Reasons.
It would appear that the only Naval Oilers suitable are Leaf Class and it is requested consideration be given to sending Ranger Class to Mediterranean where Oiling is carried out in Harbour, and for which these Oilers are primarily designed, and for Leaf class to be used in Atlantic oiling. (C. in C. W.A. 2145A/16 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

CHELSEA. Have been in collision with one of the convoy and am returning to harbour. 6 feet of stern cut away. Water is being kept down in tiller compartment while steaming head for sea, and steering gear is intact. No assistance required. My P.C.S. at 0400A/16, 059° N. 008° 18' W., 106°, 14 knots. (CHELSEA 0500A/16).
Proceed Liverpool. (C. in C. W.A. 1135A/16 to CHELSEA).

BEN HANN. Your 1310/15. No information regarding BEN HANN has been received beyond that contained in N.O.I.C. Oban's 2224A/15. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1015/16).
Your 1412A/16. Following from N.C.S.O. Clyde begins. BEN HANN, Inverness for Bowling, left Fort William 1200/10 not arrived. Request information. 1310/15 ends. (F.O.I.C. Greenock No T.O.O. Recd. 2013/16).

PRESIDENT BRIAND. (L.L. Trawler) Sailed LORD WAKEFIELD to assist PRESIDENT BRIAND. E.T.A. 1330. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1055A/16).
Sailed tug CANUTE to assist PRESIDENT BRIAND. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1126A/16).
Cancel my 1126A. Tug returned harbour owing to weather. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1214A/16).
PRESIDENT BRIAND went ashore at 1045 about 1 mile west of Shoreham entrance pier. Had to abandon ship. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1245/16).
My 1055A/16. LORD WAKEFIELD returned to St. Helens. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1519A/16).

TURQUOISE. Returning to Harwich owing to degaussing breakdown. Position Abeam Aldeburgh L.V. (TURQUOISE 1820A/16).

INHA. Following received from Rosyth W/T. Received 1900 G.M.T. begins. S.O.S. from S.S. INHA grounded outside Simrishamn leaky in hold No. 2. Master. Ends. (C. in C. Rosyth No T.O.O. Recd. 2025/16).

ARLETTA. Tug SEA GIANT sailed to the assistance of S.S. ARLETTA foul of 20Q Buoy and now drifting ashore North of Sunderland. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 2204/16).

Hopper 11. Kirkcudbright Lifeboat has been launched to stand by Hopper 11 ashore Balldoon Sand. (D.S.T.O. Liverpool 2215/16).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Boiler Cleaning of Escorts at Gibraltar.

C. in C. W.A. 1931A/27/10 and F.O.C.N.A. 2332A/24/10 and 0952/31/10. Proposals and approvals. (Controller 0014A/16) See Lion Copy.

P.Q.4.

Your 1306A/9. Commander Chekin (Soviet N.T.O.) has arrived in Iceland and will be (? Lieut.) in MOSSOVIET (Russian) sailing in P.Q. 4. (A.C.I.C. 0958N/16 to Admty.)

P.Q.5.

Ships of convoy P.Q.5. can be discharged at same time as P.Q.4. Russia and Maclay requests P.Q. five arrives as soon as possible. (2) It is not desirable for P.Q.4. to be delayed in order that both convoys should be combined. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1014C/16).
SHEFFIELD will be required to provide ocean escort for P.Q.5.
(ii) In view of my 1805Z/14, the following*will not be required for P.Q.5. (A) Outward local escort of trawlers (B) Destroyers for Ocean Escort.
(iii) Admiralty 2129A/15, para. one. HAZARD, HEBE and SHARPSHOOTER should escort these ships to Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F. 1227Z/16 to N.O.I.C. Iceland). * Note:- "will not be" checked as received.

Personnel for U.K.

S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1840C/15 which has been passed to BERWICK. Concur.
(ii) My 2218Z/14 refers. (C. in C. H.F. 1423Z/16).

Q.P. convoys.

C.S.1. 1132A/15. I consider returning ships should continue to be escorted in convoy until they have passed Bear Island when likelihood of attack becomes progressively less. Propose future Q.P. convoys should disperse and escorts return independently after reaching longitude 15°. E.
(ii) It is undesirable dispersed ships should proceed independently through Denmark Strait. If it is necessary for them to pass Denmark Strait, or to reassemble for onward routeing, they should be routed to Akuyreyri or Seidis Fiord for escort to destination by trawlers of A.C.I.C.'s Force.
(iii) With the long hours of darkness and reduced air activity from Norway I consider it justifiable at present to route dispersed ships of Q.P. convoys independently to Orkneys providing.Fighter protection near Faroes.
(C. in C. H.F. 1439Z/16 to Admty.)

/P.Q.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

P.Q. Convoys. Following from S.B.N.O. Archangel is passed to you for information. Repeats S.B.N.O. Archangel 0648A/15. (D.T.D. 1718A/16 to B.A.D. Washington).

C.T.7. Convoy C.T.7 consisting of S.S. PASTEUR carrying 3,500 service personnel will be ready to leave Clyde for Halifax on 22/11.2. Speed of convoy 16 knots.
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide two destroyers to escort convoy to Halifax.
5. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail convoy as requisite. (A.C.N.S. H. 1814A/16).

ESPERANCE BAY. W.S.14. Has been fitted as a troopship and will be ready to leave London 25/11.
2. She is required to leave Clyde in W.S.14 on 3/12.
3. You are requested to arrange for her passage to Clyde and to signal E.T.A. as soon as possible in order that arrangements for embarkation of troops may be made. (D.O.D. H. 1815A/16 to C. in C. Nore).

East Coast Convoys. Your 2028A/14.
An analysis of ships sailed north bound from Southend since 1st Sept. to 15th Nov. inclusive shows that the total number sailed was 1717, of these the number capable of going in an 8 knot convoy was 1129. The number requiring a 6½ knot convoy was 588. In practice, in order to smooth out the present inequalities in numbers sailing in fast and medium convoys and to avoid slow ships incapable of 8 knots waiting too long, I consider that if fast convoys were reduced to 8 knot convoys and medium and slow convoys were left as they are now this would be the best compromise.
As regards F.S. convoys, owing to their being laden, it is possible that in winter half knot higher speeds than the above might be advantageous for fast and medium convoys.
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1838A/16 to Admty.)

/EMPIRE.....

MOST SECRET.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

EMPIRE WIDGEON.
EMPIRE EGRET.

EMPIRE WIDGEON and EMPIRE EGRET should be sailed to Newport to load as soon as possible. Please confirm dates of readiness. (D. of S.T. 1955A/16 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool).

1200Z/16. 051° 48' N. 014° 18' W. Hove to since 0800. GENTIAN, ACANTHUS in company. (FLEETWOOD 2000Z/16).

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping. Passings 15/11. Westward MEDIE II, LILLOIS, CARIMARE all full IMERETHIE II in ballast OVERGHA, ARCTURUS Deck Cargoes of Lorries. (V.A.C.N.A. 0917A/16 to Admty.)

SHEAF CROWN. Am standing by SHEAF CROWN anchor 338° P.C.L. 11½ with engine trouble. Am embarking 9 Poles as she will have to return to Lisbon. If she is unable repair propose towing her to Lisbon. Do you concur? Your 0743A/16 (N.T.in W.D.) ship not encountered. Wind W.N.W. 5 sea 33. Weather report.
(SCOTTISH, 0930A/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 0930A/16. Have assisted SHEAF CROWN to repair engine to proceed Lisbon. Continuing patrol with 8 seasick passengers.
(SCOTTISH, 1900A/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation "Chieftain". S.O. Force 'H', 1101/16, circulated as Most Secret, regarding operation "Chieftain", returned to Head of Watch, War Registry, 17/11.

Convoy. Departure DEPTFORD, WILD SWAN, PENTSTEMON, RHODODENDRON, CONVOLVULUS, MARIGOLD, SAMPHIRE, escorting R.F.A. BROWN RANGER and BLAIRATHOLL, BARON NEWLANDS, SHUNA, CISNEROS, OTTINGE.
S.O. Force H 2254A/14 refers.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1630A/16 to Admty.)

Spanish and French shipping. Gibraltar 0735 A LAZARO flying Naval Ensign carrying large numbers of troops westbound. 1405 French survey ship ESTAFETTE VOLONTAIRE MONT CASSEL Trawler AUGUSTE-DENISE all full eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1827A/16.)

BAARN, SHAHRISTAN, survivors. BAARN ex S.L.93 escorted by CYCLAMEN will arrive Ponta Delgada about 30/11 to embark 21 Military Survivors ex SHAHRISTAN. Embarkation should be expedited in every way. CYCLAMEN will fuel and she and BAARN should sail in company to rejoin convoy. Arrangements are being made for E.T.A. to be signalled to you 36 hours in advance.
(D.T.D.2316A/16 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

/Force H. ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

Force H. My 2312A/16 (N.T. in W.D.) HERMIONE, ARGUS, LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LEGION, ISAAC SWEERS sailed with NELSON and will part company at 1845A/17 to feint east and then return Gibraltar. S.O. Force 'H' 2254A/14 and Admty. 1331A/15 refer. (F.O.C.N.A. 2334A/16 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

Petrol for Lati. Your 0859/12 to S.O. (I) Freetown not fully understood. Please amplify details regarding discharge of cargo from Spanish sailing vessel. (D.N.I. 1212A/16 to Consul, St. Vincent.)

BAARN, Escort SHAHRISTAN survivors. Your 2110A/15. It was the intention to escort with CYCLAMEN proceeding with S.L.93 to U.K. for refit who must fuel at Ponta Delgada. (C. in C. S.A., 1239N/16 to Admty.) Your 1239N/16. Concur that BAARN escorted by CYCLAMEN should be used to embark these Military survivors (ex SHAHRISTAN). Request you will instruct escort to signal N.C.S.O., E.T.A. of BAARN at Ponta Delgada 36 hours in advance. Escort should also be told that survivors may not be embarked in a Man-of-War. N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada is being informed. (D.T.D. 2314A/16 to C. in C. S.A.) Cancelled: See 1610A/18.

ALCANTARA Force G. Departed Simonstown 15th arrived Capetown a.m./16 and departed 1546 G.M.T.14 (?16) for "F.O".S. of A.15½ knots E.T.A. 1000 G.M.T/26. (ii) Force G. arrived Cape Ports 16/11. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1758Z/16 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

JULES VERNE and U/Bs. Various reports lately that French S/M depot ship JULES VERNE at Dakar proceeds to sea from time to time leaving in the evening and returning in the morning for fuelling U-boats. Grateful if U.S. Consul General could obtain any information. (C. in C. S.A. 1845N/16 to B.A.D.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

ARGENTINA URUGUAY.	B.3 report states Spaniards have sold to Italians. Ships were sunk during Spanish War in Barcelona and have been refloated. URUGUAY is still at Barcelona. ARGENTINA left Barcelona 25/10, passed Gibraltar 30/10, and according to unconfirmed report arrived Lisbon on 2/11 in tow of CASTILLO BELLVER. (D.S. 803, 16/11.)
TOSCANA (Italian)	Hospital ship, reported she would arrive Venice on 15/11. (D.S. 803.)
ARKADIA (German)	Reported (B.2) to have left Piraeus 8/11 for Crete. (D.S. 803)
Landing Operation, TORBAY, TALISMAN.	TORBAY's 2204B/15. Concur. TALISMAN is to abandon landing operation and return to Alexandria forthwith in accordance with previous orders. TORBAY is to remain for re-embarkation but attention is called to para 11 of operation "Copper" which is to be strictly observed. (Capt. S.1. 0445B/16, to TORBAY, TALISMAN.)
Swordfish.	Investigation into loss of 4 on 12/11. (A.O.C., Malta 1037/16.) See Lion Copy.
S/M Torpedoes, Malta.	V.A. Malta 1229B/8. It is (? proposed that) the supply of submarine torpedoes to Malta should be given priority over aircraft torpedoes until further notice. (ii) Propose OLYMPUS should be used for this duty (F.O.C.N.A. 1110A/14 refers) and that every future submarine opportunity for transport of submarine torpedoes to Malta should be taken. (C. in C. Med., 1040B/16 to Admty.)
PERSEUS, UNBEATEN.	PERSEUS is to establish patrol forthwith in vicinity of 035° 16' 019° 26'. UNBEATEN is to establish patrol in vicinity of 033° 04' 015° 30' by 0001/19. Operational sanctuary is established within 25 miles of these positions from 1201B/17 for PERSEUS and from 2000B/18 for UNBEATEN. (Capt. S.1., 1051B/16 to S/Ms named.)

/Italian ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Italian Fleet. Following is estimated disposition effective Italian main units on 16/11:- Naples, battleships, 2 LITTORIO; cruisers, 2 6-inch. Messina, battleships, 1 CONTE DI CAVOUR Class; cruisers, 2 8-inch and 2 6-inch. Taranto, battleships, 2 CONTE DI CAVOUR Class; cruisers, 3 6-inch. At Sea, p.m.14/11 3 6-inch cruisers, not known, 1 8-inch.
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1110B/16 to S.O. Force H.)

GLAUCOS. Establish patrol forthwith within 10 miles of 036° 02' 018° 52'. If nothing sighted by dusk/18 proceed Malta as routed in 1203B/15 from Capt (S) 10. Further information and instructions for arrival Malta will be signalled later. PERSEUS will be patrolling in vicinity 035° 16' 019° 26'.
(Capt. S.1. 1131B/16 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS.)
My 1131B/16. Amend patrol position to read 035° 00' 020° 30'. Important southbound convoy sighted Straits Otranto 1700B/17 expected your position about 0800B/18. On leaving patrol proceed through 035° 47' 020° 00' thence as in Capt. (S) 10 1203B/15.
(Capt. S.1., 1721B/16 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS.)

THUNDERBOLT
UTMOST
URSULA
URGE
UNBEATEN
PERSEUS
SOKOL
UPRIGHT
GLAUCOS
P.34.

Proceed to patrol in following positions: THUNDERBOLT 037° 58' 015° 34', UTMOST 037° 51' 015° 43'. Important 12 to 14 knots south-east bound convoy probably heavily escorted may be expected late afternoon 17/11. Object of attack is merchant ships. Further instructions follow.
(Capt. S. 10, 1221B/16 to THUNDERBOLT, UTMOST.)
UTMOST proceed as ordered in Capt. (S) 10 1221B/16. THUNDERBOLT proceed towards Cephalonia. URSULA, URGE remain on patrol. Further instructions follows.
(Capt. S.1, 1635B/16 to THUNDERBOLT, UTMOST, URSULA, URGE.)
My 1635B/16. Important southbound convoy sighted off Brindisi 1600B/16 probably passing westward of Cephalonia and Zante (Zakinthos) daylight hours 17th. Para.(?1) Operation B.S. Establish patrol line (?forthwith). 4 038° 01' 020° 13' 280 12 190 30. Positions to be taken up as follows: Position A, 038° 01' 020° 13' Pol.Sub. SOKOL. Position B, URGE. Position C, UPRIGHT. Position D, THUNDERBOLT. Until further orders submarines are not to be attacked. Submarines in conjunction endeavour to establish S S/T communication when safe to do so. Para. 2. Gr.Sub. GLAUCOS establish patrol forthwith in 035° 00' 020° 30'.
(Capt. S.1, 1731B/16 to S/Ms on Patrol.)
Cancelled by 1641A/18, q.v.

/My 1731B ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

THUNDERBOLT
UTMOST
URSULA
URGE
UNBEATEN
PERSEUS
SOKOL
UPRIGHT
GLAUCOS
P.34
contd.

My 1731B/16. Establish Patrol forthwith as follows: UTMOST as in Capt.(S) 10, 1221B/16, P.34 within 10 miles of 035° 45' 019° 30', PERSEUS within 10 miles of 035° 16' 019° 26', UNBEATEN within 10 miles of 033° 04' 015° 30', URSULA remain area D. until dusk/18, thence position within 10 miles of 033° 00' 014° 50' by dawn/19. P.34, URSULA, leave Patrol position at dusk 18th and 19th respectively and return Malta as routed Capt. (S) 10.
(Capt. S.1, 1745B/16 to S/Ms on Patrol.)
My 1221B/16. Subs proceed to patrol as follows:- After attack or at times zone minus 2 shown

Sub.	At	Through		To
THUNDERBOLT	1900/17	037° 45'	016° 00'	K
UTMOST	1900/17	037° 40'	016° 00'	M
UNBEATEN	1800/19	Blank		D
PERSEUS	As ordered by Capt.(S) 1.			

(Capt. S. 10, 1830B/16 to S/Ms on Patrol)
W.D. Note.- This was cancelled by Capt. S.10, 1015B/17 q.v.

Air Operations.

14/11.
9 Marylands dropped bombs on Derna aerodrome during afternoon.
Night 14/15. 34 Wellingtons operated, heavy haze over whole of Cyrenaica again prevented observation of damage. 19 attacked Benghazi. 13 bombed aircraft stores Berka. 1 bombed Bardia causing explosion and 1 bombed Derna.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1246/16.)

C.M.22
MAURETANIA.

In order that MAURENTANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM and ILE DE FRANCE sailing from Durban mid-December should not arrive Suez in full moon period, request MAURENTANIA in C.M.22 be turned round and sailed for Durban as quickly as possible.
(D.O.D.(F) 2332A/16 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CENTURION. A.M. 0044A/1.
(1) CENTURION battleship disguise is understood to have been penetrated in Red Sea and information has no doubt been passed on to Japanese. Her presence at Bombay is also liable to be known to Japanese.
(2) It appears desirable when Eastern Fleet is first formed there should be no doubt in mind of Japanese that heavy ships arriving are genuine.
(3) It consequently appears undesirable to use CENTURION until after the end of January when 5 or 6 genuine capital ships should have been identified by Japanese in Eastern waters.
(4) After this date I consider CENTURION might be usefully used in connection with other movements to deceive enemy as to our strength by arrival at port(s) where photographic R/C and expert observation are unlikely.
(5) I propose to discuss readiness of CENTURION and possibility of completing her camouflage with C.in C. E.I. in Ceylon.
(6) H/F W/T appears a requirement in order that CENTURION may be included in dummy W/T traffic thus giving added realism. If not already fitted it is requested necessary equipment may be made available.
(S.O. Force G. 1130Z/16 to Admty.).

CHANTALA collision. My 1706Z/14. Details of CHANTALA, on Jibouti patrol in July, collision with Dhow FATEH EL BARI during routine examination at sea.
(C.in C. E.I. 0224Z/16 to Admty.).

Persian Gulf defence requirements. My 0736/20/10 and A.M. 1601/30/10.
Proposals were put to A.O.C. in C. M.E. in my 1306/1/3 Air Ministry have approved alteration of dividing line between Mideast and India. On other points A.O.C. in C. M.E. informs me that "among issues raised are relative importance of air operations in Middle East Theatres and Far East and new threat nature of which I am unable adequately to assess. Have therefore referred your signal to Air Ministry with request it be placed before Chiefs of Staff".
(C.in C.E.I. 0454Z/16 to Admty.).

/Whalers.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Whalers renamed.

My 2049A/15 (not to S.N.O. Persian Gulf,) following whalers have also been renamed.

K O S 10	FLICKER
K O S 11	FULLMOON
G O S 2	ATMOSPHERE
G O S 3	BILLOW.

Request you will take necessary action.
(Head of M. 1520A/16 to C.in C. E.I.).

Floating dock.

Your 1643/15 (1643/15).
1. A.M. 1659/15. Promises despatch of experienced towing Master and Engineer. Work should be progressed as far as possible pending their arrival.
3. Ref. Dock Master.
B. Crew. Primary object is to move dock from Bandar Shapur and it is intended to do onward journey in two stages the first to Karachi and second Karachi to Port Sudan. You should therefore now approach crew and ascertain if they would be willing to remain with dock for first stage. (C.in C. E.I. 1544Z/16 to S.N.O.P.G.).

A.M.C's.

Your 0738/13.
(1) Intended that KANIMBLA should remain on Australian Station.
(2) Anticipated dates of arrival on E.I. Station are :- CHITRAL, WORCESTERSHIRE and ALAUNIA, Feb 1942. RANPURA, March 1942.
A.C.N.S.(F) 2352A/16 to C.in C. E.I.).

China.

French shipping.

My 1131/8 and 0217/9 (?0317/9 intended). Arrival Haiphong 10/11 PIERRE L.D. and VILLE DE VERDUN. Local shipping circles expect L.D. ships to break blockade, cargo suggested Wolfram, Tin, Wood. (?oil).
(Capt O.S. Singapore 0323 Z/16 to D.N.I.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

CLARKIA. Leave Bermuda P.M./17 and proceed to Mobile to comply with B.A.R.M. Washington 1324/15. Route via (?Providence) Channel and Florida Straits. Adjust speed so as to arrive Mobile P.M./23. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1212Q/16 to CLARKIA).

PHOEBE Sailed from Trinidad 1500Z/16. Routed East of Virgin Islands. E.T.A. Ambrose L/V 0200Z/21. Height of Brooklyn Bridge noted. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1217Q/16 to B.A.R.M.).

Atlantic convoys. Your 1718A/14 para 1 and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1508Z/12. Most suitable interval 3 days. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1525Z/16 to Admty.).

WYOMING (French). Your 1219/15. Ref. Washington tel 6569 Arrar repeated to C. in C. A.W.I. only. No report of sailing yet received from Washington. (D.E.W.D. 1602A/16 to C. in C. A.W.I.).

T.C. 16. Your 2049/12 0349/13 and 2138/13. It is not now proposed to include GEORGE WASHINGTON and LETITIA in T.C.16. 2. Revised proposals are:-
(a) PASTEUR and CUBA as before.
(b) STRATHNAVER due Trinidad 26/11.
6. It is hoped to sail T.C. 16 about 9/12.
(D.S.T. 1641A/16 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LARPOOL (torpedoed 1/11.) — 7 more survivors from LARPOOL, torpedoed and sunk 1/11, 200 m. E.S.E. of Cape Race, who have landed in Newfoundland report several other men in their boat died from exposure. 5 survivors had been landed on 10/11 and a third boat is still missing. (D.S. 803, 16/11.)

NOTTINGHAM. — British, 8538 tons, torpedoed 7/11, now presumed sunk (D.S.803.)

Submarines Reported.

0938A. — It is estimated that a U Boat is within 100 miles of you to the southward.
(D.D.I.C. 0938A/16 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN, Escort of W.S.12Z, GERANIUM.)
My 0938/16. Position of U/B is too indefinite to recommend an alteration of course in any specific direction.
(D.D.I.C. 1600A/16 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN, Escort of W.S.12Z, GERANIUM.

1343. — Am over enemy submarine sighted on surface and observed to submerge in 62.43 N., 23.31 W.
(A/C "Q" 1343/16, to Group 15.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1446A/16, 1510A/16.)

1324. — At 1324 U-boats were being homed on to a convoy probably S.L.92.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1454Z/16, to Escorts S.L.92.)

1443 G.M.T. — U-boat sighted in 62° 43' N., 23° 31' W., at 1443 G.M.T./16. Possibly steering to S.W.
(D.D.I.C. 1730Z/16, to Opnav.)

Submarines Attacked.

By MARIGOLD. — Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charge(s) in 036° 13' N., 004° 42' W. Am remaining in vicinity.
(MARIGOLD, 2316/16, to F.O.C.N.A.)
W.D. Note. Attack sucessful and prisoners taken. (See 17/11.)

By A/C. — A/C Q/221, Iceland, attacked U/B at 1538/16, sighted on surface, machine-gunned as it submerged, 62-43 N., 23.31W., 200° Reykjanes 70'.(D.S., 804, 17/11.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A case of suspected sabotage in destroyer ORIBI was reported today.

Weather. Peterhead Harbour was opened at 0935 today. Shipping was again dislocated by the weather today.

PRINZ EUGEN. Examination of photographs of Brest taken on 14/11 show PRINZ EUGEN's dock almost certainly flooded and some of the camouflage at the entrance removed.

White Sea Patrols. The patrols normally in force in the White Sea are reported in S.B.N.O. Archangel 1645C/17.

Enemy Air Operations.

An attack was made by about 15 aircraft between 1708 and 1803 on convoys F.N.55 and F.S.48 whilst these convoys were passing one another off the Suffolk coast. S.S. BOVEY TRACEY in F.N.55 was damaged and sank later. The aircraft were circling in a waiting position out of sight of the convoys, and attacked singly or in pairs. C. in C. Nore suggests that night fighters would be effective in the waiting position of the enemy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

A signal was made at 0020 today in plain language reporting that S.S. SCHWANECK (German) had been mined off Gross Horst (54° 6' N., 15° 4' E) Stettin,.

Falmouth was closed at 1950 owing to mines.

North Atlantic.

NELSON to sweep for supply ships.

It is probable that an enemy supply ship escorted by a submarine was in approx. 44° N., 2° W., at 0001 today, proceeding to the westward. NELSON on passage to U.K. is to endeavour to intercept, and HERMIONE is to leave ARGUS (see 16/11) so as to join NELSON after daylight tomorrow returning to Gibraltar on completion of search. Aircraft R/C will be flown north of Finisterre from dawn/18 weather permitting.

South Atlantic.

It is reported that S.S. THODE FAGELUND (Norwegian) Madras to Capetown was sunk by explosion, the cause of which is not definitely established, at 0550 today about 30 to 35 miles off shore near East London

C. in C. S.A. is unable to station an oiler near St. Helena as proposed by the Admiralty on 3/11, until the arrival of BLACK RANGER.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

PROTEUS has returned from patrol and reports that at 0945/3 she hit the German tanker TAMPICO with one torpedo south of Mandili Island the tanker was still afloat at dark and the escort frustrated a second attack. At 2030/9 PROTEUS sighted the German S.S. ITHAKA heavily laden southbound off St. Georgio Island with two escorts. PROTEUS attacked at 0400/10, obtaining 4 hits one of which was possibly on the escort.

At 1455B today aircraft attacked 3 merchant ships escorted by a destroyer in 37° 14' N., 19° 51' E., and left one ship on fire.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

New T-Class S/Ms.

My 1551A/8. It is intended that those new construction "T" Class which will later be allotted to the Mediterranean Station should, on completion of working up, carry out similar patrols from Holy Loch.
(F.O.S. 1318A/17.)

Dover Strait Action.

Your A.17/973/41 of 8/10 and 1843A/14/11. T.L. have read with interest your reports on action against hostile shipping using the Dover Strait and note with pleasure the very satisfactory results obtained.
(1st S.L. 1852A/17 to V.A. Dover.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Fuelling in North Russian Waters.

M.S.F.1. 2130C/15. Minesweepers are to fuel and provision at Murmansk in future. Destroyers are also to fuel and provision at Murmansk subject to any special instructions received from S.O. of ocean escort. Cruisers will continue to fuel from tankers if necessary at Dvina River bar until you judge ice conditions too difficult for tankers or cruisers. Requirements to be reported in advance if practicable.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1508C/17.)

Russian Patrols in White Sea.

Following patrols in White Sea command normally occupied by one or two patrol vessels or trawler. Patrol number one on line Cherni Obriv and Konushinskaya shoals. Patrol number 2 on line Cape Terski Orlov and round Orlovsjaya. Patrol number 3 on line Pulonga and Intzi. Patrol number 6 on line Cape Kanin and Svyatoi (?Nos). Patrol number 7 on line Cape Cherni and Svyatoi. (2) When a British force is known to be crossing one of these lines patrol vessels are normally withdrawn to one side.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1645C/17.)

Movements.

WORCESTER WALPOLE.

WALPOLE is being sailed to relieve WORCESTER. Detach WORCESTER to arrive Harwich before dark today. (Capt. D. 16. 0916A/17 to SOUTHDOWN.)

CASTLETON.

Your 1129/16. During absence armature has been fitted by ship's staff. After trial intend proceeding port Z.A. if they are satisfactory.
(CASTLETON 1015N/17 to R.A.M.)

/RORQUAL ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

RORQUAL
CUTTY SARK.

(1) Intend to sail CUTTY SARK at 1750A/18 to R/V with RORQUAL in 270° Wolf Rock 5 miles at 0800A/20 and escort her to Holy Loch.
(2) Should RORQUAL not be met by 1200A/20 CUTTY SARK will proceed to Falmouth returning to the R/V by 0800A each day until RORQUAL is met. N.O.i/c Falmouth is requested to sail CUTTY SARK accordingly.
(3) (A) N.O.i/c Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation to cover paragraph 1.
(3) (B) N.O.i/c Falmouth is requested to arrange fighter co-operation should it be necessary to implement paragraph 2.
(Capt. S.3. 1055A/17.)

VENOMOUS.

Departure VENOMOUS in tow of MASTADONTE. S. of A. 6 knots. Approximate E.T.A. Clyde 0700A/19.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1145A/17.)

Floating Crane.

My 1230/15. Request sailing may be delayed 24 hours. (D.S.T.O. Portsmouth 1535/17.)
My 1233/16 and D.S.T.O. Southampton's 1535/17.
1. Subject to sufficient improvement in weather intend to sail floating crane from Portsmouth 0830/19 using all available tugs to pass Needles 1300/19.
2. Tow will be swept on Q.Z.S. 293 as far as possible before dark. It is anticipated that tow should be in 18 fathoms by that time.
3. Should weather further delay sailing approval is requested to sail tow as soon as weather improves regardless of dark period.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1903A/17 to Adty.)

RAMILLIES.

Admiralty's 1643A/8. As W.S.14 will not sail until 3/12 RAMILLIES need not arrive at the Clyde until 2/12.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1540A/17.)
A.M. 2006A/16. RAMILLIES will pass Bar L.V. at 1330A/20. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1628A/17.)
CROOME and either EXMOOR or BADSWORTH are to escort RAMILLIES from Liverpool to Scapa. Destroyers detailed are to R/V on 20/11 with RAMILLIES as arranged by N.O.i/c Liverpool.
(R.A.(D) Home Fleet is requested to arrange for destroyer(s) detailed to escort EREBUS from convenient R/V to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 1926A/17.)
C. in C. W.A. 1926A/17. Request you will sail escort to R/V with RAMILLIES at Bar L.V. at 1330A/20.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2128A/17 to Capt. D. Londonderry.)

/PRINCE ...

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

PRINCE LEOPOLD. My 1548A/13. Intend sailing PRINCE LEOPOLD for Portsmouth passing Clyde boom 1700A/18. Speed of advance 16 knots. Route. E.T.A. Western end Q.Z.S. 284, 0830A/20. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1606A/17.)

EREBUS ROBERTS. My 1620A/17. Escort for RAMILLIES will be available to escort EREBUS and ROBERTS to Londonderry. (C. in C. W.A. 1621A/17 to R.A.D. H.F.) My 1621A/17. Delete ROBERTS. (C. in C. W.A. 2111A/17.)

SHARPSHOOTER. Following embarked in SHARPSHOOTER. (A.C.O.S. 1712/17.)

NELSON. FAULKNOR. NORMAN. ICARUS. Admiralty 2006A/16 and my 1620A/17. Destroyer escort for NELSON should R/V in 056° N. 008° W. at 0800Z/22. Request you will sail escort accordingly. (C. in C. W.A. 1729A/17 to R.A.D. H.F.) Your 1729A/17. Request FAULKNOR may be sailed from Greenock accordingly. NORMAN and ICARUS will be sailed from Scapa to refuel at Londonderry p.m./21st. and R/V next day in position given. (R.A.D. 2255A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

COMMANDANT DETROYAT. MIMOSA. (Admiral Muselier.) C. in C. W.A. 1040A/14. Admiral Muselier and Staff will embark in COMMANDANT DETROYAT at Greenock a.m./24. 2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail COMMANDANT DETROYAT for Iceland (C) after embarkation. 3. On arrival at Iceland (C) the Admiral and Staff will transfer to MIMOSA and sail as ordered by S.O.P.A. for St. Johns N.F. forming part of escort for O.N.40 if movements of this convoy render this possible. (D.O.D. H. 1856A/17.)

EXMOOR. My position at 1800 G.M.T./17th. 053° N. 015° W. (EXMOOR 1903A/17.)

P.38. Proceed forthwith submerged by day through
(A) 48° N. 10° 30' W.
(B) 47° 30' N. 09° W.
(C) 49° N. 06° W.
(D) Thence to Portsmouth as ordered by Captain S.5. (F.O.S. 2202A/17 to P.38.)

/MONTBRETIA ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

MONTBRETIA.
COLUMBINE.

Request you will sail MONTBRETIA and COLUMBINE to Londonderry, on 18/11. Ships are to fuel at Londonderry and await further orders.
(C. in C. W.A. 2242A/17 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Operations.

Patrols.

Brightlingsea Auxiliary Patrols remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1225A/17.)
SEAWOLF sailed patrol off Vardo.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1505C/17.)
Dover dispositions for night 17/18 nil, owing to weather.
(V.A. Dover 1614A/17.)
Harwich Auxiliary patrols remaining in harbour until weather moderates.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1615A/17.)
Cancel HLP 16 and my 1221A/15. Proceed forthwith on the surface at your discretion through 063° N. 003° E. 062° 32' N. 002° 26' E. and 062° N. 003° E. to patrol in the vicinity of 061° 02' N. 003° 50' E. Your object is to attack and then report cruisers and above, and Northbound merchant ships if in company of cruisers and above. (F.O.S. 1741A/17 to TUNA.)

NORFOLK.
ARETHUSA.

Report when NORFOLK and ARETHUSA will be ready for service.
(C. in C. H.F. 1753Z/17 to V.A.2.)

TRIDENT.

Your 1809C/9. It may be necessary for me to have TRIDENT to patrol. Is she limited to 7 knots owing to defective cylinder blocks.
(F.O.S. 1756A/17 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

KENT
SHEFFIELD.

KENT is to return to Hvalfiord now at best speed. SHEFFIELD is to cover both area.
(C. in C. H.F. 1759Z/17.)

EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH returns to Hvalfiord now at best speed unless SUFFOLK already returning.
(C. in C. H.F. 1817Z/17 to C.S. 18.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

"Polar" in operation 0930Z. "Price" at 1200Z. (A.C.I.C. 0926N/17.)
"Polar" and "Price" returned. Nil report. (A.C.I.C. 1722N/17.)
A.M. 1016A/15. A modified "Longstop" patrol is required from 0900 tomorrow. (A.C.N.S. H. 2122A/17 to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

A/C in Russia.

Advance party left by sea for Archangel. (151 Wing 1800/17 to Air Ministry.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S.48. ROBERT W. POMEROY. (British 1750 Tons) damaged on 16/11.

Arrived.H.M.T. LADY PHILOMENA escorting damaged ROBERT W. POMEROY at 0055. (F.O. Humber 0103A/17.)
ROBERT W. POMEROY now berthed Immingham East Jetty. Vessel will enter wet dock Immingham at daylight today. Ballast pump damaged from near misses and vessel making slight water in engine room, but this is now under control. (Salvage Officer, Immingham 0337A/17.)
ROBERT W. POMEROY attacked by aircraft in F.S.48 near 62B buoy 1710/16. Slight damage. No casualties. (F.O. Humber 1101A/17.)

FERNBANK (Trawler) sunk on 16/11.

Aberdeen trawler FERNBANK bombed and sunk 12 miles N.W. of Myggenaes at 1400 yesterday. 6 survivors in own life boat landed Sorvaag today including captain seriously injured, remaining 5 uninjured. 4 of crew lost. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1137A/17.)

Convoy F.S.48.

Enemy are bombing convoy "Plumb" in 52° 25' N. 2° 1' E. (WHADDON 1725/17.)

Convoy F.N.55. BOVEY TRACEY (British, 1212 Tons) sunk.

Left BOVEY TRACEY sinking fast. Have instructed WIDGEON to dan-buoy position. Have 14 survivors including captain. Understand remaining survivors are in ELEANOR BROOKE or NORTHWOOD. Am rejoining convoy. (LOWESTOFT 1856A/17.)
BOVEY TRACEY sunk in 052° 23' N. 002° 49' 50" E. (WIDGEON 2001A/17.)

MINNA. damaged on 16/11.

(H.M. Examination Vessel) Damaged by near miss in enemy air attack in 56° 04' 36" N. 2° 51' 12" W. at 1750/16. No casualties. Vessel towed to Leith. (N.O.I.C. Leith 1825/17.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

SCHWANECK. Following received from Rosyth W/T addressed S O S, from D O V D. S.S. SCHWANECK auf mine gelaufen position Gross Horst. (C. in C. Rosyth T O R 0020/17.)

Thames Estuary. One S.A. mine detonated at 1210/16. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1003A/17.)
One magnetic mine detonated as follows at 1055/16. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1007A/17.)
3 S.A. Mines detonated as follows at 2108/15. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1019A/17.)
At 1350/3 one Green Mine detonated by VERSATILE at Sunk Buoy. Details. (VERSATILE 1509/17.)

Tyne. Detonated one Magnetic Mine at 0840/17, 077° Tyne North Pier Light 100 yards. (N.O.I.C. North Shields 1140/17.)

Mine clearances. PLOVER ADVENTURE. My 1552/16.
1. Intend in first instance to employ PLOVER, working from Harwich, supplemented at a later date by ADVENTURE working from Immingham.
2. It is considered undesirable for PLOVER to work by night during moonlight periods. Request your views on this point, together with those on the question of her working by day with air support.
3. PLOVER's trial programme for VERNON should be adjusted on the assumption that she may be required to leave Portsmouth on or about 25/11. (A.C.N.S. H. 1702A/17.)

Falmouth. Port closed owing to mines. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1950/17.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Norwegian Coastal shipping. My 1201A/16. Position of FINNEIDEWELL should read 67° 15' N. 15° 26' E. (D.D.I.C. 1046A/17.)

DANAHOLM UDDEHOLM (Swedish) A.M. 2210A/16. Vessel concerned was Swedish DANAHOLM who cleared from Thorshavn 1245/15 and was waiting her consort Swedish UDDEHOLM who sailed 1252/16 to overtake. This was not re broadcast as it was considered tolerably certain that this was the ship in question, and it was decided to wait for an amplifying report which was given in messages 1341/16 and 1354/16 from aircraft L/210. (C. in C. Rosyth 1314/17.)

/Tanker ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence - contd.

Tanker. Report graded B.2. At 1200Z/17 one large tanker, loaded, with two trawlers and air escort passed Hellefiord, 61° 40' N. 4° 50' E., course North.
(D.D.I.C. 1530A/17.)

PRINZ EUGEN. Examination of Photographs of Brest taken on 14/11 show PRINZ EUGEN's dock almost certainly flooded and some of camouflage at entrance removed.
(D.D.I.C. 1644A/17.)
My 2202A/17. Aircraft R/C shows PRINZ EUGEN dock almost certainly flooded.
(F.O.S. 2214A/17 to P.38.)

Oslo. Learn port Oslo has again opened 15/11 after being closed seven days on account of mines. Graded B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm 1811/17.)

Navigational.

Peterhead. Peterhead Harbour open.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0935/17.)

Casualties and Defects.

ORIBI. Suspected sabotage. ORIBI reports finding pieces of metal in manoeuvre valve and strainer (details). Ship was built by Fairfield and sabotage at firm's works seems possible. No damage has been caused. Remainder of manoeuvre valves are being examined.
(C. in C. H.F. 0023Z/17.)

ARLETTA. My 2204/16. ARLETTA contacted but did not require assistance. SEA GIANT returned to harbour.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0306/17.)

CAIRO. CAIRO arriving Devonport for refit a.m./19/11. CAIRO has not had proper refit since war. Request she may be given a thorough refit on this occasion.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 1218A/17.)

ABRONIA. Departure tug KENIA to assist M/S Trawler ABRONIA. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1445A/17.)
My 1445. KENIA returned towing M/S trawler ABRONIA. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1805A/17.)

/LINCOLNSHIRE ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

LINCOLNSHIRE. We are hove to off Lands End, clearing water from stoke hold. Plates are awash. Request position service.
(LINCOLNSHIRE 1500/17 to CLEVELAND.)

BEN HANN. My 2005A/16. Coastguard Port Ellen reports raft washed ashore 5 miles east of Port Ellen with 2 life belts attached bearing name BEN HANN. No personnel on raft.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1655A/17.)

ALBURY. Cancel my 1602/16. Rudder defective.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1710/17.)

SARDONYX. Leak in starboard condenser just developed. Anticipate delay in sailing 6 hours.
(SARDONYX 1801A/17.)

PRINCESS ASTRID. Should be taken in hand for refit as soon as berth is available. (Adviser on Combined Operations 1918A/17.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.N.5. Intend remaining Thurso Bay until 1500/17 on account of adverse weather.
(COVERLEY 0815/17.)
From COVERLEY. Reference COVERLEY's 0815/17. Sailed 1500. (Scapa W/T 1505/17)

C.T.7. A.M.1814A/16 para 2. Intend including GLENARTNEY 18 knots Capetown/Singapore LANARKSHIRE 16 knots Panama/Berbera. Both ships ready Glasgow approx. 20/11.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 1024A/17.)
Your 1024A/17 and A.M. 1814A/16. Concur that GLENARTNEY and LANARKSHIRE should be included. 2. No further ships can be accepted.
(D.O.D. H. 1821A/17 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.)
BELMONT from Liverpool and GARLAND from Clyde are to be sailed as escort for C.T.7 in accordance with Admiralty's 1814A/16.
N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange R/V.
(C. in C. W.A. 2142A/17.)

/F.S.43 ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

F.S.48. Passing 54 G buoy. 26 ships. Following ships missing at daylight, AFTERGLOW, GORSELANDS, REIAS, ACFIELD. These ships were making heavy weather at dusk and have probably put in to Humber. Request I may be informed if their whereabouts are known.
(WHADDON 1035A/17.)
WHADDON 1035A/17th and my 1245A/17. All ships now accounted for.
(C. in C. Nore 1445A/17.)
Your 1615 to C. in C. Nore. Approved anchor convoy between B.7 and B.8 buoy if impracticable to proceed further. Report your E.T.A. at B.8 buoy at 2000.
(C. in C. Nore 1719A/17 to WHADDON.)

P.Q.4. Sailed at 0900Z consisting of BUDENNI, ALMA, ATA, RODINA, MUSOVET, SUKHOMA, DAN-Y-BRYN, EULIMA, and EMPIRE METEOR. Speed of advance 7 knots. H Y para four. B one, STELLA CAPELLA and BUTE. B three, 1530Z/20. D two, 0800Z/27. Admiralty please pass to Archangel and North Russia. (A.C.I.C. 1141N/17.)

P.Q.5. Admiralty 2155/15 para.1. EMPIRE STEVENSON, SOUTHGATE, TREHATA will not arrive Kirkwall until P.M.18th. They will be sailed with ST. CLEARS a.m.19th.
(A.C.O.S. 1216A/17.)

DESIRABLE. EGRET's 1612Z/16. DESIRABLE is not to call at Azores. Other arrangements have been made.
(D.T.D. 1246A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

P.Q. Convoys. My 1718A/16 and 1838A/16. No decision yet taken as to composition and cycle of convoys after P.Q.6. Probable that eight day cycle will be impracticable.
(A.C.N.S. T. 1329A/17 to B.A.D. Washington.)

S.B.N.O. Archangel. 0905C/13 para. 2 (b). Estimated time for ships occupying berth 16 days. Estimated time for passage through Gorlo is 3 to 5 days depending on ice conditions say 8 days both ways. Time on passage 24 days. Total time for round trip (? from (? Iceland) therefore 48 days. Unless there are strong objections to using Murmansk it would certainly be economical in shipping to do so during worst ice season. Recommend alternate convoys discharging Murmansk. In any case ocean escort and minelayers will require to fuel in Kola Inlet during the same period. Admiralty pass to C. in C. Home Fleet.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1550C/17.)

/JAMAICA ...

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

JAMAICA (Norwegian)	JAMAICA sailing independently New York 22/11. Eight members of crew signed on have all recently escaped from Norway. Chief Officer anti-British. Captain appears satisfactory but has been great friends with a former Captain of TENERIFFA who was on the Black List. Immigration authorities report rumour that vessels will proceed to enemy port. (N.C.S.O. Newport, Mon, 1830A/17 to Adty.)
E.N.8.	Owing to no escort being available propose cancelling E.N.8. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1903/17.) Your 1903/17. Preparation is to be made to sail E.N.8 at programme time. Availability of escort is dependent on W.N.5. arriving in time. (C. in C. Rosyth 2241/17 to N.C.S.O. Methil.)
H.G.76. O.G.77. AUDACITY.	Request you sail AUDACITY as extra escort for H.G.76 transferring to O.G.77 as extra escort to Gibraltar. (C. in C. W.A. 1920A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MARIGOLD.	Survivors from sunk U/B and details of attack. (MARIGOLD, 0206A/17 V.A.C.N.A. 1904A/17 etc). See U-boat Campaign.
Casablanca.	Report of P.R.U. sortie Casablanca, Port Lyautey, etc., on 16/11. (No. 1 P.R.U., Gibralter 0305/17 to Air Min.) See Lion Copy.
Operation "Chieftain".	Intend to increase number of broadcasts today and tomorrow above normal, and include some higher priority. Request you reciprocate. (F.O.C.N.A., 0922A/17 to V.A. Malta).
LISBOA (German).	Arrival, Lisbon. (Valencia T.H.I. 1020/17, to D. of S.T.)
ARK ROYAL (sunk 14/11)	Survivors embarked as follows. (Numbers in NELSON, ZULU, SIKH, and GURKHA. (F.O.C.N.A., 1028A/17 to Admty). My 1755/14. From reports now received it appears LEGION who was starboard wing ship of screen heard H.E. on Starboard bow shortly before ARK ROYAL was torpedoed but attributed this to her next ahead. LEGION was under helm at the time. There is reason to believe this H.E. was from torpedo. (S.O. Force H., 1356A/17 to Admty).
Survivors ex SHAHRISTAN.	Your 2316A/16. 21 Military survivors were sent to Lisbon on 9/11. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1104/17 to Admty).
CORRIENTES, CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN, (German).	CORRIENTES now berthed alongside breakwater 500 miles from South end. CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN Las Palmas inner harbour, funnel now black. (Las Palmas, 1140/17 to Admty). 2 shipments totalling about 200 tons gas oil fuel in drums sent by sailing vessels to Tenerife ex CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN. This tanker is filling more drums today into German Lighters. (Las Palmas, 1800/17 to Admty).
A/S Sweep.	Sailed WISHART, VIDETTE, MARIGOLD for A/S Sweep eastwards. (F.O.C.N.A., 1532A/17 to Admty).

/Swiss....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.- Contd.

Swiss Ships. Route.

Admty. 0138A/13, para 3 B. Intend routeing approved Swiss ships west of Iviza thence 000° Cape Caballeria Minorca 10 miles, 000° Revellata Point Corsica 10 miles to a point 12 miles 180° from Genoa. Request approved ships now in Italian ports may be informed of this route and instructed in absolute necessity of adhering to it on both outward and return voyage. (F.O.C.N.A., 1544A/17 to Admty amended 1020A/18).

Rescue Ships, Azores.

Your 1215/14. Request precise objection of Portuguese Govt., observing that SALVONIA will be in fullest sense a merchant ship. There is thus no ground in International Law for refusing facilities to a vessel whose services will be available to all ships in distress. Please emphasise this point and report urgently. (Head of M. 1629A/17 to N.A. Lisbon).

8 S/M Flot. dispositions, A/S training.

Available S/Ms in 8th Flotilla in December will be CLYDE, SEVERN, OLYMPUS and Netherlands S/M O.24. Commitments are OLYMPUS, torpedo supply to Malta, O.24., offensive patrols in Western Mediterranean, leaving two River class for Atlantic Patrol and North and South Atlantic Stations A/S training Admty 0014A/16. Suggest that one non-operational S/M, if available, be allocated to Gibraltar for A/S training. River class are neither suitable nor economical for this work. (F.O.C.N.A., 1710A/17 to Admty).

SAN GORG, sale to Spaniards.

From M.W.T.R. Governor confirms sale of SAN GORG. Considerable expense incurred in equipping vessel. Loaded (350?) tons Pyrites ex BERGA. Intend sailing her next H.G. Convoy vide 1326A/16/8 from D. of S.T. to V.A.C.N.A. Intention was outlined in 1651A/7/11 from M.W.T.R. to M.W.T. to which no reply was received. Consider ship very valuable in view of shipping shortage and deprecate her sale to Spaniards. Built 1919 as a Corvette and is highly suitable conversion A.B.V. No other local vessel available to relieve ROSABELLE 2 vide A.M.1819A/27/10. Strongly advocate SAN GORG, be converted on arrival U.K. (F.O.C.N.A., 1800A/17 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Vichy Warships, Tunis.	Your 0138/13 para. 2 and 3 (D). Request confirmation that Vichy warships should not be attacked by night in Tunisian territorial waters south of 35.46. (V.A.C.N.A., 1824A/17 to Admty).
NELSON, HERMIONE, search for supply ship.	Probable that enemy Supply Ship, escorted by S/M was in approx. 44° N., 02° W. at 0001/17 proceeding to Westward. 2. Request you will arrange for NELSON during her passage to endeavour to intercept on assumption that enemy's speed is 12 knots and that route is between 42° N. and 45° N. 3. NELSON is not to proceed West of 20° West and her activities are to be limited to one passage only through the area. 4. If you can spare HERMIONE from escorting ARGUS she should be ordered to assist to limit of prudent endurance and should also not pass to Westward of 20° W. 5. Weather permitting A/C R/C will be flown N., of Finisterre from dawn/18. (A.C.N.S. (F), 2000A/17 to S.O. Force H).

South Atlantic.

Oiler, St. Helena.	Your 2000A/3/11 para 2. Concur this is very desirable and I would like to get an oiler there soon but with present commitments this will not be possible until BLACK RANGER arrives. (C. in C. S.A., 0031N/17 to Admty).
SEVERN.	Request when it is intended that SEVERN shall sail for Gibraltar; for about 50 hours before sailing to enable minor defects made good. Request S/M may be placed at 24 hours notice during this period. (SEVERN, 0919N/17 to C. in C. S.A.)
Oil Patch.	U.S.A. Ship EXHIBITOR reports passing through patch of oil 8 miles wide in 03.31 S., 74.18 E. AM/5 (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0937/17 to Admty).

/Oil....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Oil for Lati. Your 1212A/16 and my 0859/12 to S.N.O.I. Freetown. Cargo Spanish sailing ship consisting of drums and cases gas oil fuel and gasoline, local boat owner refused discharge cargo knowing destined Lati. Ship anchored off shore drums lowered over ships side rope attached and life-boat of Spanish sailing ship towed them ashore making many journeys.
(Consul, St. Vincent, C.V. 1005/17 to Admty).

Convoys in S.A., publicity. F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 0939B/15. Consider no photographs of ships at anchor outside Union ports should be published but no objection to photographs of convoys approaching or of troopships actually inside harbours. Suggest fake photography pictures of convoys show greater number of escort vessels and aircraft than really exist. Pictures might actually be of convoys in home waters showing a few destroyers amongst escort, but trawler type representing S.D.F. vessels should be included. With U-boats operating well south of Equator we want to try and give enemy impression that we have strong A/S forces in S. African waters. Intelligence services usually exaggerate the strength of the other side's forces.
(C. in C. S.A., 1225N/17 to Admty).

CYCLAMEN. N.C.S.O. informs British Consul CYCLAMEN will require 100 tons of fuel at Ponta Delgada on 30/11. (C. in C. S.A., 1239A/17 to N.S.C.O. Ponta Delgada San Miguel).

ODENWALD. Request report by telegram of any information obtained from ODENWALD about her occupation and movements, which would be of use when planning future operations.
(C. in C.S.A., 1255N/17 to B.A.D.)
(Reply B.A.D., 1205R/18.

HAWKINS. To leave Freetown at 0615N/18 and on completion of practices proceed to U.K. passing through the following positions
(a) 13.35 N., 25.35 W.
(b) 16.25 N., 27.42 W.
(c) 39.00 N., 30.00' W(d) 46° N.,22° 20' W.
Speed of advance to position (D) 14½ knots.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to order onward route from position (D). (C. in C. S.A., 1511N/17 to HAWKINS).

/FORT....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

FORT DE TRYON. French.

Arrival 17th. (Duala, 1737/17 to D. of S.T.)

STANLEY defects S.L.94.

STANLEY arrived Freetown 16/11 with both dynamoes out of action, condenser defective, and both boilers require cleaning for removal of salt water. Will be unable to sail with S.L.93. Intend to sail her with S.L.94. (C. in C. S.A., 2001N/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

THODE, FAGELUND sunk.

Chief Officer and 8 men of ?(Norwegian) ship THODE FAGELUND bound for Madras to Capetown landed at Kidds Beach near East London at 1800 today (ii) Officer reports by telephone ship was torpedoed and sunk at 0500/17. (iii) Torpedo was not seen, stated that all four hatches blew off. I am inclined to doubt torpedo. (v) Officer is being fetched by car to East London for interrogating (vi) 3 other boats reported still missing (vii) position of sinking reported to be 45 miles off land. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2128B/17 to Admty C. in C. S.A. etc).
THODE FAGELUND, 5757 tons, bound from Chittagong to Table Bay and U.K. (D.O.R., 18/11)
My 2128/17. Further information. (i) Ship hit on starboard side and took 5 minutes to sink (ii) No. 4 hatch and not all hatches blown off (iii) No explosive carried (iv) Position of sinking (?32) to 35 miles off land (v) Position of all boats known and tug is proceeding to their assistance.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2325Z/17).

R.A.S.A.D.

BIRMINGHAM wearing flag of R.A.S.A.D. arrived Montevideo 1300 G.M.T./17 and leaves 1300 G.M.T. /19 for Falkland Islands.
(R.A.S.A.D., 2139Z/17)

Flying Over Cape Verde.

Consul St. Vincent's 1450/30/10 to F.O. No.25. This should not deter you from carrying out R/C which you consider necessary. Pilots should be instructed to make every effort to avoid flying over land and, in particular over towns. Known use by enemy S/Ms of Cape Verde Islands waters makes it essential that all necessary steps should be taken at all times to safeguard important shipping routes in the vicinity of these Islands.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2247A/17 to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TALISMAN, TORBAY. — My estimate of noon position 17th 033° 15' 023° 42' E.T.A. Alexandria 0600/20. 17 Soldiers still on board. TORBAY requests daily weather reports at (?noon) for next 24 hours. (TALISMAN, 0350B/17 to S.1).

S/Ms. — Cancel my 1830B/16. Necessary orders will be issued by Capt. S.(1) (Capt. S.10., 1015B/17 to S/Ms on Patrol)

TALISMAN. — At 1800B alter course proceed through following positions (X) 033° 08' 023° 57' (Y) 033° 08' 027° 02' (Z) 032° 34' 028° 20' thence direct and searched Channel to arrive Sanctuary 0600B/20 British force will be operating southwards of you during night 18th-19th. (Capt. S.1., 1145B/17 to TALISMAN)

Air Operations. — A. 897, 17/11. Night 15/16 41 Wellingtons operated. 6 Wellingtons dropped bombs on Derna. Reports from remainder awaited. Day 16/11. 6 Marylands dropped bombs on dispersed aircraft at Derna landing ground. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1146/17). Following is supplementary to my A.897, 17/11 para. 1. Night 15/16. 9 bombed Derna landing ground which was lit up with flares dropped by 2 Albacores. 13 bombed stores dumps at Bardia Day 16/11. 9 Marylands bombed enemy aircraft on Gazala south landing ground. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1432/17)

Russian Ships from Black Sea. — Your 1944/14. There appear to be misunderstandings. It has at no time been suggested an escorted convoy can be formed to bring these ships through Aegean and such a proposal is out of the question. Consider ships must be sailed by similar methods to those used to bring out other allied ships which have slipped through Aegean. Lieut. Harkness R.N.R. has already been sent to you and endeavour will be made to find some other suitable officers but as ships will not all be sailing together ten officers will be unnecessary. It is not thought more than five ships a month can be safely sailed down by this means. 3 further sets of charts and Mediterranean pilots will be sent. (C. in C. Med., 1200B/17 to A.N.A. Ankara).

/PORPOISE....

MOST SECRET.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

PORPOISE Fleet Movements.	1. Important British units will be leaving harbour a.m./18. Be on the surface in S/M exercise Sanctuary from 0830B onwards. Do not enter searched channel until all force (?leaving) are clear. 2. Small convoy escorted by 2 sloops and 3 trawlers leave harbour at 0600B Westward by inshore route. One corvette escorting a merchant ship due from Eastwards 1000B. 3. Cruisers and destroyers will be operating to Southwards of (?you) during the night and may be sighted about (?daylight). They R/V with other units to N.W. of Sanctuary at 1230B/18. (Capt. S.1., 1641B/17 to PORPOISE.)
Enemy Units attacked by A/C.	Three Merchant Ships one Destroyer attacked by aircraft in 037° 14' 019° 51' at 1455B/17. One ship left on fire. (Capt. S. 10, 1855B/17 to S/Ms on Patrol.)
Corinth Canal, mines.	1. If aircraft mines are laid in Corinth Canal suggest they should be fitted with period Delay Machanism set to more than four actuations. 2. Secret message 279 of 3/11 refers. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1917A/17 to C. in C. Med.)
THORN.	Concentrate for next 2 or 3 days on route Piraeus - Antikithera. (?Aim at) intercepting any southbound convoy which normally leaves Gaidaro about dusk and passes East of Giorgio Island. (Capt. S.1. 2014B/17 to THORN.)
Situation report 167.	Western Desert. 7 C.S. at sea for bombardment tonight 17/18. Tobruk supply continues but destroyers temporarily withdrawn. Some Australian troops remain in Tobruk although sufficient trips completed to evacuate all remaining contingent. Two M.T.Bs employed on U-Boat patrol off Bardia night 15/16 without result. (2) Levant. Four destroyers carried out sweeps 14 to 16 in area N.E. of Port Said without result. (3) Submarines. PROTEUS returned from patrol in Aegean. 0945/5 one (?15) miles south of Mandili Island tanker TAMPICO torpedoed with one hit but still afloat at dark and second attack frustrated by escort. At 2030/9 sighted German ITHAKA heavily laden southbound off St. Giorgio I. and with two escorts. PROTEUS shadowed, worked round escort and at 0400/10 attacked scoring four hits. One hit possibly on escort. No counter attack. (4) Red Sea. ARPHA has arrived Suez. (C. in C. Med. 2141B/17.)

MOST SECRET

17.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

AUSTRALIA. N.O.I.C. East London 0700/15 and my 0953/13. AUSTRALIA is at 48 hours notice while carrying out self refit.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1256Z/17 to C. in C.E.I.)

KANIMBLA. Cancel my 1452/18/10. KANIMBLA is now due Penang p.m./27/11. C. in C. China has been requested to arrange onward programme to Australia in consultation with A.C.N.B., Melbourne, so as to give passage to C.N.S., A.C.N.B. from Singapore. (ii) My 0800/24/10 to A.C.N.B. Melbourne only is also cancelled.
(C. in C. E.I., 1540Z/17 to A.C.N.B.)

China.

DAUNTLESS. Will leave Singapore 21/11 for Colombo and U.K. Request you will arrange onward passage. Her fuel capacity is 87 of normal for D class.
(C. in C. China, 0913Z/17 to C. in C. E.I.)

Coast Defence, Tanjong Priok, Edam Is. Your 0309Z/13. Now understood that intention is to instal at Tanjong Priok two 6" guns offered in A.M. 1601A/20/10 and instead of a 6" battery ordered by Dutch from some other source. 2. Request information if possible as to (a) Source from which 6" battery not yet delivered was ordered. (b) When plan for Edam Island is likely to be complete, whether heavy and medium batteries are available and when installation is expected to start.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1148A/17 to C. in C. China.)

America and West Indies.

S.C.54. Serial 5. British escort of 7 ships S.O. in BROKE meets S.C.54.
(U.S.C.N.O., 0120/17 to Com. Task Unit 4.1.15.)

/CLARKIA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 17.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.- Contd.

CLARKIA. Your 1212Q/16. Preferred for CLARKIA to arrive Monday, exact time and position will be signalled shortly.
(B.A.R.M., 0940R/17 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

W.S.12X. Arrival convoy W.S.12X.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 1041Q/17 to Admty.)
List of Ships, speed, destination, etc.
(D.O.D.(F), 1820A/17 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

BORWELL. Ref. N.S.H.Q. 2300/14 (? 2003Z/14 intended, arrival of BORWELL at Boston.) It is at present impossible to give completion date and assumption of two month's refit is not authorised by me.
(B.A.R.M., 1122R/17 to Admty.)

DESPATCH. C. in C. A.W.I., 1222/9 (Programme for DESPATCH.) Arrangements made.
(B.A.D., 1201R/17 to Cdre, W. Indies.)

Vessels renamed. Following for B.A.S.R.
Your 1405R/11, para. 6 (N.T. in W.D.) Names for vessels BYT 1 to 5 are BUSY, CONFIDENT, INTENT, HELPFUL, RESOLUTE respectively.
(Head of N.A.S. Section, 1332A/17 to B.A.D.)
See also 1712A/20.

CAPILLO. Your 1630/16. CAPILLO arrived Port Moresby 15/11.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1332Z/17 to Admty.)

S.C.56 Escort. S.C.56, unit 4.1.13 designated escort. RESTIGOUCHE, S.O. of escort, ALYSSE, AGASSIS, BITTERSWEET, AMHERST, CHICOUTIMI, TRILLIUM, ORILLIA.
(C.C.N.F., 1355Z/17 to Com Task Force 4.)

DIDO. Ship ready for sea 3/12 with probable (corrupt group) completion of type 285. DIDO should arrive Bermuda a.m./6/12 after completing S.A. trials at Boston.
Working up will require 8 clear days.
If above Unit practices can be carried out without delay ship could arrive Gibraltar on 20/12.
(DIDO, 1415R/17 to B.A.R.M. Washington.)

/W.S.12.....

MOST SECRET

17.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

W.S.12.	Opnav 1758/17. (Repeated in Admty. 1326A/18, see S.A. 18/11.)
WASAGA, COWICHAN.	Completion deferred to 20/11 due to delay in obtaining ballast. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1543Z/17.)
CLARKIA.	Bermuda departure CLARKIA in accordance with my 12120/16/11. Bermuda arrival U.S.S. SALAMONIE (Oiler). (C. in C. A.W.I., 1843Q/17 to Admty.)
INDOMITABLE.	Proposed programme. (INDOMITABLE, 1837Z/17.) See Lion Copy.
GEORGES LEYGUES, (French Cruiser)	Casablanca, 15/11. A.1. GEORGES LEYGUES sailed 0830/15 to southward. Believed bound for Dakar to relieve GLOIRE or MONTCALM. (B.A.D., 1727R/17 to S.O.I. Freetown.)
French shipping.	ILE DE RE and LEOPOLD L.D. sailed a.m./15. Casablanca for New York. WYOMING also sailed Casablanca Martinique, and MONT VISO Martinique, Casablanca. All voyages approved. (B.A.D., 1939R/17 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)
FANALAS (?)	Yugoslavian (? FANALAS) grounded Funk Isle, Newfoundland, later floated apparently in sinking condition. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2022Z/17 to Admty.)
S.C. Convoys.	It is hoped to continue assembling S.C. Convoys at Sydney until at least 15/1. Request however that ships due at Sydney after 1/1 be warned that they may receive diversion signal to Halifax and that they may be supplied with provisional instructions for Halifax. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2231Z/17 to S.O.I's. Capetown, Freetown, etc.)

/ODENWALD....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 17.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

ODENWALD. Your 1159/13. Understand Lt.-Cdr. Glick of OMAHA supplied information desired on 14/11. (Opnav, 2257/17 to C. in C. A.W.I.) ODENWALD brought into San Juan, Porto Rico, p.m./17 under her own power but escorted by U.S. Warships. Details of capture. (The Times, 18/11/41.)

New Zealand.

LEANDER, MONTEREY. Departure Auckland LEANDER covering MONTEREY to vicinity of Equator via Suva and Pagopago. (N.Z.N.B., 0505Z/17 to Admty., etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

THODE FAGELUND. Norwegian, suspected torpedoed at 0500/17, off East London. (See South Atlantic.)

Submarines Reported.

1527. 1528 G.M.T. SSSS BCSQ (ALGONQUIN) 38° 23' N., 62° 16' W., smoke on surface apparently from submarine 1527/17, bearings Camperdown 168° approx., 600 metres - signed O.I.C.
(Halifax N.S. T.H.I., 1200/17 to Admty.)

Estimated approx., positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1422A/17, 1423A/17.)

Submarines Attacked.

By MARIGOLD. MARIGOLD reports having attacked and destroyed U-boat in approx., 036° 13' N., 004° 42' W.,and has picked up survivors.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0142A/17, to Admty.)
Have 34 survivors of U-Boat. Request further instructions.
(MARIGOLD, 0206A/17, to F.O.C.N.A.)
Have searched but no further survivors. Asdic and Radio D/F out of action. E.T.A., 0700.
Your 0317A/17, prisoners German.
(MARIGOLD, 0356A/17, to F.O.C.N.A; F.O.C.N.A., 0622A/17 to Admty.)
Well done.
(C. in C.W.A., 0937A/17, to MARIGOLD.)
My 0622A/17. Evidence of key tallies and store notes indicate U.433.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1022A/17, to Admty.)

MARIGOLD's 0356A/17. Prisoners should be sent to U.K., for interrogation at first opportunity. No formal interrogation is to be carried out in the meantime. If the U-boat's number or name of C.O. is ascertained it is to be reported. Any captured documents should be forwarded to D.N.I., at first opportunity.
(D.N.I., 1538A/17, to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 0412A/17. MARIGOLD, delayed by engine defects, was proceeding independently to join 36th Group who were carrying out A/I search in Eastern Approaches.

/(2) At about.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.11.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By MARIGOLD.
Contd.

(2) At about 2316/16 in 36.13 N., 04 42 W., R.D.F., contact was made range 4000 yards closing. Whilst altering course to bearing object identified as U-boat, speed increased to ram U-boat but U-boat avoided by crash diving close ahead.
(3) Asdic contact was gained and attack made with 5 charges at 50 feet. Contact was lost but regained in 15 minutes bearing ahead range 1300 yards. Deliberate attack was made with 10 charges pattern set 150 and 300 feet.
(4) Contact regained astern and U-boat surfaced. Range was closed and fire opened with 4" pom-pom and Lewis. Crew abandoned ship and U-boat sank very quickly. Two explosions presumed scuttling charges, heard.
(V.A.C.N.A., 1904A/17 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

S/M operations.

The Admiralty informed TRIDENT and TIGRIS that their operations in North Russia have most successfully achieved their object.
SEALION shelled and set on fire at 1127C today the small Norwegian tanker VESCO in 71° 0' 30" N. 27° 1' 50" E; the crew abandoned ship and SEALION returned to base with injured Norwegian officers and valuable information.
Soviet S/Ms report having sunk vessels on 2/11, 9/11 and 10/11 respectively in the Hammerfest-Tromso area and torpedoed and set on fire a tanker on 15/11 off Varanger Fiord.

Dispositions to intercept enemy heavy unit.

An alteration in the dispositions which will be taken up by U.S. cruisers WICHITA and TUSCALOOSA, should enemy heavy units break out, was made today; these cruisers will patrol west of Iceland. Submarine and air patrols are still being carried out.

W.A. escort forces.

C. in C. W.A. gives details today of a proposed reorganisation of his escort forces.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today.

The operations of Fighter and Coastal Commands were affected by the weather, but successful attacks were made on ships off Fecamp and Ijmuiden.

Enemy Air Operations.

H.N.M.S. HORTEN (Local Defence whaler) was damaged by air attack at 1400 today whilst patrolling off Nolso Lighthouse.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary is suspected during the early part of last night. A W.D. towing vessel was slightly damaged by 2 near miss acoustic mines at 1000 today.
Between 1905 and 1940 today there was a period of intense minelaying activity over the Estuary and a large number of mines were subsequently detonated. It is understood that indications given by R.D.F. were slight and A.A. gunfire from shore ineffective. The night was very dark. There was very little gunfire from ships, on account of nothing being seen. Owing to the small number of ships available in the Sheerness Local Defence Flotilla that night no heavily armed ships apart from the boom vessels themselves were stationed in the boom area; 3 Eagle ships and one gunboat were in the outer estuary. C. in C. Nore reports that unless more effective measures can be taken considerable risk exists that convoys in and out of the Thames will be seriously delayed.

North Atlantic.

S.O. Force H reported that MALAYA's repairs were completed and the ship was ready for service at 1011A today. (It was reported on 13/11 that bearings required remetalling).

South Atlantic.

HAWKINS sailed from Freetown this evening for the U.K.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Nuisance raids were carried out over Naples from 2035/17 to 0155/18 and from 1833/18 to 2335/18 and over Brindisi from 2040/17 to 0010/18.

Operation "Chieftain".	The battlefleet was at sea today in support of Operation "Chieftain". It was shadowed by enemy aircraft whilst proceeding westward, and turned back after dark today but did not return to harbour until 19/11.
Libya and Western Desert.	The Imperial troops commenced a general advance at dawn today with naval and air cooperation. Bad weather considerably hampered operations and the bombardment arranged for the 7th C.S. last night had to be cancelled for that reason. Two German Officers and 7 O.R.'s were captured near Daba last night, having landed by boat from a U-boat and attempted unsuccessfully to mine the railway. F.A.A. fighters are being employed as fleet cover and Albacores in support of Western Desert operations with Advanced H.Q.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.11. 1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Fishguard Ferry services.

It has been represented that the Fishguard-Rosslare and Fishguard-Waterford services should run by day only.
2. Request your remarks
(D.T.D. 1153A/18 to C.in C. W.A.).

News of closing and re-opening Ports.

It is essential that news of closure of a port through enemy action or through weather or through other unforeseen causes should reach Admiralty immediately. It is equally essential that news of subsequent re-opening should reach Admiralty immediately.
Information of closing and opening is to be passed without delay by telephone to Admiralty Trade Division extension 1240, being confirmed by signal.
The telephone message is to state time of the occurrence, cause, and any forecast possible at the time of speaking.
Forecasts of re-opening are also to be telephoned, but need not necessarily be confirmed by signal.
A.M. 1740/14/6/40 is cancelled.
(D.T.D. 1759A/18).

Co-operation with Russia.

Accommodation for 4 Officers and 7 ratings.

Admty.'s 2234A/16. Accommodation (corrupt group) numbers of personnel expected for all three services considered to be satisfactory for winter. Naval accommodation particularly good.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1030C/18 to Admty.).

Charts for Russia.

Your 1905C/13. Further set of chart folios 13 and 14 have been sent to you in P.Q.5.
(D.N.I. 1430A/18 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

TRIDENT TIGRIS.

T.L. congratulate you on the most valuable service you have given in North Russia. Your attacks have resulted in sinking and damaging many enemy ships and by your skill and your example you have given great encouragement to our Allies. Your object has been most successfully achieved.
(1st S.L. 1546A/18 to TRIDENT, TIGRIS).

Russian Patrols in White Sea.

Following received from S.B.N.O. Archangel:- Begins (Text of S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1645C/17) Ends.
(D.O.D.H. 1621A/18 to C.in C. H.F. etc).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.11. 1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Scapa A/S defences. — Cancel my 1255A/14. Request EMILE BAUDOT be sailed in Convoy for Scapa to repair A/S fixed defences. (D.A/S.W. 1104A/18 to A.C.I.C.).
Your 1104 A/18. Had already sailed for previous destination 4 in my 1019N/18.
(A.C.I.C. 1759N/18 to Admty.).

Movements.

BROADWAY. — Position 060° 20' N. 025° 00' W.
(BROADWAY 0550Z/18).

SWEETBRIAR — My position 058° 34' N. 023° 31' W.
(SWEETBRIAR 0600Z/18).

Floating crane. — Your 1835A/17. Your 1615A/14, and my 0930/15.
Anticipated completion floating crane P.M./17.
(D.S.T.C. Southampton 0915/18 to Admty.).

C.in C. Portsmouth 1233/16 and 1903/17. Request you will arrange to take over escort of tow in vicinity of St. Govans where it is estimated it will be P.M.22nd.
(C.in C. Plymouth 1306/18 to C.in C. W.A.).
My 1233A/16 and 1903A/17. Tow will be escorted by BERKELEY, KINGSTON CRYSOBERYL, and KINGSTON TOPAZE. C.in C. Plymouth is requested to relieve escort trawlers before dark 20th and to order BERKELEY into Plymouth as soon as A/A escort can be dispensed with.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1603A/18 to C.in C. Plymouth).
One Sloop is to be detailed to provide A/A escort to Floating crane in tow and escorted by 3 M.Ls. between St. Govans Head and Ailsea Craig. R/V off St. Govans Head will be arranged by F.O.I.C.Milford Haven and ships detailed is to arrive Milford Haven A.M.22nd.(C.in C.W.A. 1801A/18 to N.O.I.C.Londonderry)

LEITH. — Your 1330/17. Approved to proceed to Liverpool.
(Capt. D. Londonderry, 0937A/18 to LEITH).

CILICIA — My 1620A/10 and my 1600A/15. Anticipated date now 3/12. (S.O.W.P. 0941A/18 to Admty.).

51st M/S Group. — My 1335A/13. Sailing postponed until end of this week owing to defect in one ship.
(V.A. Dover 1206A/18 to C.in C. Nore).

/Escort.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11. 1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. -Contd.

Escort for RESOLUTION BERKELEY.	Admiralty's 1917A/16. Request destroyer may arrive Plymouth A.M./24th. (C.in C, Plymouth 1256/18 to C.in C. Portsmouth). Your 1256/18. BERKELEY will be available for this service. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1603A/18 to C.in C. Plymouth).
RUBIS.	Cancel my 1105A/16. Intend to sail RUBIS escorted by LOCH MONTEITH from Dundee 1530A/18 inside Minch Barrier to 090° Sumburgh Head 10 miles thence unescorted dive by day to patrol in vicinity 061° 30' N. 4° E. C.in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange fighter protection to Sumburgh Head. (Capt. S.9 1423A/18 to F.O.S. and 1551A/18 to S/ms Area A).
BADSWORTH CROOME (RAMILLIES).	Your 1926A/17. BADSWORTH and CROOME detailed. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1538A/18 to C.in C. W.A.).
1st M/S Flotilla.	S.O. 1st M/S Flotilla 2230/15. Russia C.O. states escort can use Molotovsk with icebreakers without danger. Consider this view correct. Icebreakers have now been placed under control of Navy and I hope delay will no longer be experienced. (2) Intend keeping LEDA separate Ekonomia as W/T Guard Ship until W/T arrives or until I consider it is unsafe which ever is earlier. Admiralty pass to C.in C. H.F. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1655C/18).
O.10 Z.5.	Sailed S/M O 10 escorted by T.B.Z.5. (WESTERN ISLES 1700/18).
RORQUAL.	RORQUAL left 045° 53' N. 002° 40' W. A.M/18 thence through 047° 44' N. 006° W at about noon 19th to arrive Wolf Rock at 0800A/20. These movements however may be 24 hours late. (Capt. S.3. 1704A/18 to P.38, RORQUAL).
KENYA BEDOUIN INTREPID.	Pilot will board KENYA and BEDOUIN off Bolshoi Oleni Island in entrance Kola Island. (?Destroyers) will proceed alongside new oiling Jetty Rosta for Fuel and embarking R.A.F. subsequently anchoring allotted berths. Weather permitting fighter escort will be provided for KENYA if arriving in daylight from position 360° Teriberski 8 miles. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1713C/18 to C.S.10).

/JAY.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements -Contd.

JAY
LORD GREY
AIGLON.

Sailed JAY in company with minesweeping trawlers LORD GREY and AIGLON in accordance with my 1408A/14. Approximate E.T.A. Fayal 29/11. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1757A/18).

BERWICK
OFFA
ONSLOW.

BERWICK, OFFA, ONSLOW arrived Seidis Fiord 0900. (A.C.I.C. 1821N/18).

A.F.D. 14.

Weather permitting intend to sail A.F.D.XIV. In tow of EMPIRE LARCH and escorted by MORGAN JONES and NORTHNESS at 1500 tomorrow. Request fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1840/18 to C.in C. Rosyth).

CARDAK
SILIVRI
AL GARNA
(Turkish).

1. Two ferry steamers CARDAK and SILIVRI are being delivered from U.K. to Istanbul for the Turkish Government, and are expected to sail as a group from Clyde very shortly.
2. The Masters have been instructed to report to the British Consul on arrival at Istanbul. Vessels are sailing under British registry and registers should be closed when vessels have been handed over to and accepted by Turkish Authorities.
3. Route being followed in Ponta Delgada, Freetown, Walfish Bay, Capetown. Durban, Mombasa, Aden, Port Said.
(A.C.N.S.T. 2000A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.).
My 0051A/11 and your 1010A/13. Request you to sail CARDAK and SILIVRI only as convenient for Ponta Delgada and Freetown for onward passage. Crane lighter AL GARNA is to remain in the U.K. until after the winter.
(A.C.N.S.T. 2001A/18 to C.in C. W.A.).

Information for UNA.

O.N.M. 38 and escorts sailed Milford Haven 1530 Northbound 7.
B.B.2 and escorts sailed Belfast 0100/19 Southbound 7. (Capt. S.S. 2047A/18 to UNA).

TRIDENT.

TRIDENT has been diverted to patrol in an area to southward of 65° N.
(F.O.S. 2324 A/18 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11. 1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

UNA.
(Operation "Familiar").

Report blank.
(UNA 0411/18 to Capt. S.3.).

Interception of Heavy Unit.

Your 1753/17. NORFOLK ready for service.
(V.A.2. 0955A/18 to C.in C. H.F.).

Cancel F.O.S. 1657A/6 and 1006A/9. RUBIS is to disembark mines forthwith and is to be prepared to sail for patrol in North Sea P.M. today.
(F.O.S. 1156A/18 to Capt. S.9.).
(A). As soon as mines are disembarked today RUBIS is to be sailed to patrol in the vicinity 061° 30' N. 004° E. Object to attack and then report Cruisers and above and northbound merchant vessels if in company with Cruisers and above.
(B). Submarines are not to be attacked in the vicinity of this position unless hostile identity is certain.
(D). All precautions to avoid being sighted are to be taken when within 60 miles of this position.
(F.O.S. 1159A/18).
(a) TRIDENT proceed at best speed on surface at discretion through position C 69° 40' N. 010° E. thence patrol in vicinity of 062° N. 004° 20' E. Object attack and then report cruisers and above and northbound merchant ships if in company with cruisers and above.
(b) TUNA E.T.A. in patrol position 061° 02' N. 003° 50' E. from northward p.m. 19th.
(c) Submarines are not to be attacked in the vicinity of these patrol positions unless hostile identity is certain.
(d) Take all precaution to avoid being sighted within 60 miles of these patrol positions.
(F.O.S. 1207A/18 and 1301A/18 to TRIDENT, TUNA).
Your 1756A/17. (Patrol by TRIDENT). Full speed can be used if necessary without serious extra risk. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1259C/18 to F.O.S.).

My 1221Z/5. Cancel para (e) and substitute new para (e). U.S. Cruiser WICHITA and U.S. Cruiser TUSCALOOSA will carry out patrols similar to C.S. 18's force. Initial position WICHITA 064° 46' N. 031° 20' W. TUSCALOOSA 145° 15 miles from WICHITA. (C.in C. H.F. 1404Z/18).

/My.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations -Contd.

Interception of Heavy Unit -Contd.

My 1524Z/13 para 2. and my 1759Z/17. SHEFFIELD is to leave patrol at 0800Z/20 and proceed to Scapa through position (A) 061° N. 012° W. (B) 059° N. 007° W.
2. C.S.1. in NORFOLK is to proceed from Scapa as necessary to replace SHEFFIELD on patrol. (C.in C. H.F. 1833Z/18).

Your 1753Z/17. ARETHUSA ready for service with following limitations. A.F.C.T. training follow up can be worked by hand only, but is satisfactory. High angle director tests 50% complete and will be completed by noon/19 weather permitting. (V.A.2. 2351A/18 to C.in C. H.F.).

Dover Patrol.

Two M.L's. will leave Dover at 2100 to operate off Wissant returning at about 0100/19. Route via East Varne each way.
(V.A. Dover 1657A/18).

3 M/V's. sunk and 1 M/V set on fire.

Soviet S/M CHUKA class 421 reports following ships attacked and sunk:-
(a) On 2/11 in 70° N. 20° 30' E. unescorted westbound vessel 5000 tons.
(b) On 9/11 in 70° 21' N 21° 55' E. large escorted eastbound vessel.
(c) On 10/11 in 70° 09' N. 21° 12' E. eastbound escorted vessel 4000 tons.
2. MOLODKI class S/M 171 torpedoed southbound tanker Varanager Fiord on 15/11 later seen on fire.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2139C/18).

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Being flown to-day "Polar" from 0810 to 1510Z, "Bear" from 0830 to 1620Z.
(A.C.I.C. 0948N/18).

Unless further intelligence is received, "Sentry" One two and three will be required from noon/19 and should be maintained. Object: detection of enemy major unit possibly attempting to break out.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1338A/18).

"Polar" and "Bear" returned. Nil report.
(A.C.I.C. 1716N/18).

/151.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. -Contd.

151 Wing. — My 1840C/15 and your 1423/16. Intend 151 Wing be embarked as follows. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1115C/18).

Escort for KENYA. — Fighter escort consisting of Biplane fighters may be expected in daylight hours to southwards of 068° N. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2200/18).

Enemy Air Activity.

BOVEY TRACEY (Sunk 17/11). — S.S. BOVEY TRACEY in F.N. 55 damaged by bomb at 1719/17 and sunk in 52° 28' N. 02° 05' E. 14 survivors in LOWESTOFT, others believed to be in ELEANOR BROOKE or NORTHWOOD. Casualties unknown. (C.in C. Nore. 1001 A/18).

Lowestoft bombed. — Lowestoft bombed by single enemy A/C at 1845 A.C.D. nil. B. one slight casualty. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1951A/18).

Mining.

Montrose. — Port open. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1059/18).

HAIG damaged. — (W.D. target towing vessel). Slightly damaged by 2 near miss acoustic mines at 1000/18 in 51° 57' 45" N. 01° 31' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1234A/18 and 1627A/18).

Thames Estuary. — Enemy activity over the Thames Estuary for the night 17/18 between 1910 and 2020.
At 2000 there were two explosions near Maplin Buoy- probably mines detonating on being dropped.
There were several aircraft - one recognised as a Heinkel 111 over the South Barrow, Knob, and South Edinburgh Areas - all probably minelaying, but no definite reports of suspected mine positions received. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1723/18).

Falmouth. — Cancel my 1950/17. Port of Falmouth now open. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1807/18).

S.N. 25 C. — Sailed MENESTHEUS and NEWARK. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2202/18).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11. 1941.
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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

Brest at 1010/18. 3 main units in usual docks. (D.D.I.C. 1521A/18) (F.O.S. 1851A/18).

Unknown ships.

Masters of S.S. HARMONIC, LORCA, and RIVER AFTON all from Q.P.2 report that at 2230/16 in about 062° 07' N. 004° 40' W. when detached from remainder of convoy they sighted large vessel brilliantly illuminated proceeding slowly northward.
Although only half mile from LORCA details could not be distinguished owing to glare.
Swedish ships CHILE, SVEADROTT, NORDSTJERNAN cleared from Faroes at 1812/14 eastbound, while DANAHOLM, UDDEHOLM cleared Faroes westbound at 1245/15 and 1252/16 respectively.
(A.C.O.S. 1824/18 to Admty.).

Navigational.

Ice.

U.S. Aircraft reports solid ice extending 40 miles to sea from Greenland coast and floe ice extending a further 25 miles into Denmark Strait. Three large bergs within 10 miles of 67.50 N. 25.30 W. C.in C. H.F. informed. (A.C.I.C. 0957N/18).

Kola Inlet A/S defences.

Your 1921A/16. Confirm that your 2008A/27/10 has been passed to N.C.S.O's. Arrangements have been made to warn all H.M. Ships likely to operate in these waters in the sense of your 1735A/14/10. (C.in C. W.A. 1940A/18 to Admty.).

Technical.

Minor War-ships Recognition signals.

Your 1624A/14. Alternative (2) preferred. (C.in C. W.A. 1022A/18 to Admty.).

Casualties and Defects.

CHICOUTIMI.

Following received from CHICOUTIMI. Asdic dome carried away, oscillator shaft bent. 2320Z/17.Ends. (C.in C. W.A. 0658A/18).

MYOSOTIS.

Main H.P. bottom end bearing run.
Am proceeding to Belfast for emergency repairs.
E.T.A. 1700 (MYOSOTIS 0900A/18).

/S.3.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects. -Contd.

S.3. — My 1745/15. S.3 sailing today, but her W/T transmitter out of action. (HORNET 0925/18).

M.G.B's. 312 and 317. — M.G.B. 312 has one defective engine and some structual damage. M.G.B. 317 has defective 2 pounder mark XIV gun for which immediate replacement has been arranged. (V.A. Dover 1358A/18).

COLTSFOOT. — My P.C.S. are 035° 58' N. 014° 37' W. 097° 9.5. (COLTSFOOT 1720Z/18).

WELSH ROSE BRITANNIA. — If weather is favourable and vessel sustains no further damage overnight expect to refloat WELSH ROSE tomorrow. Operations on BRITANNIA are proceeding. (Mr. McKenzie, Kirkwall 1825A/18).

RAMSAY. — Following from GENTIAN. Have escorted motor vessel RAMSAY to Bantry Bay. She is leaking badly after bad weather. Left her at 3 mile limit at 0730A/18. My transmitter failing. My P.C.S. 54° 22' N. 10° 15' W. 47° 12 knots. (VANQUISHER 2115A/18).

Shipping and Convoys.

S.L.91. — FIDRA, RAMSEY, LYMINGE not present. LYMINGE, RAMSEY sighted by aircraft at about 1300/17. (C.in C. W.A. 0057/18).

T.C.15. — Ships and contents. Details due 21/11. (D.S.T. 0753A/18) See Lion Copy.

C.T.6. — Following ships sailed U.K. 14/11. LLANGIBBY CASTLE. TAMAROA. Details of personnel on board. (D.of S.T. 0755A/18).

EULIMA. — In view of my 1927/10 to N.C.S.O. Reykjavik, request reasons why EULIMA was sailed in P.Q.4. (D.T.D. 1327A/18 to A.C.I.C.).

F.N. 57. VALOROUS. — Anticipate VALOROUS will sail at 1000 tomorrow proceeding South by Swept Channels Q.Z.S. 277 and 287 to R/V with F.N. 57. Speed 20 knots. (F.O. Humber 1430A/18).

/ROSE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11. 1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. -Contd.

ROSE SCHIAFFINO. — Have you any news of ROSE SCHIAFFINO. Commodore reports ship did not join convoy. (D.T.D. 1609A/18 to N.C.S.O. St. Johns. N.F.).

SWEETBRIAR. — My position 058° 27' N. 027° 20' W. (SWEETBRIAR 1800Z/18).

W.S. 12Z. — Sailed from U.K. 12/11. Composition. (D.O.D.F. 1855A/18) See Lion Copy.

Ships for P.Q.5. — Admiralty 2155/15 to C.in C. H.F. Propose sailing ships for P.Q.5 from Kirkwall at 0930/19 routed as follows to Hvalfjord through Q.Z.S.232. Speed of advance 7½ knots. E.T.A. daylight/23. Request air protection till dusk 19th. (N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1905A/18).

C.T.7. — A.M. 1814A/16. Route. GLENARTNEY should part company and proceed independently after crossing 35° W. LANARKSHIRE should proceed independently from position F. H.Q.C.C. and H.Q.F.C. have been informed of route to position D. (D.O.D.H. 2003A/18).

H.X.159. — Sailed SUNFLOWER, KINGCUP, ALISMA at 1830. ROCKINGHAM at 2000, and (?H.M.S. ROCHESTER) at 2300. Corvettes carrying out A/S sweeps on way to M.O.M.P. (A.C.I.C. 2302/18).

MOST SECRET

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. D.D.I.C., 1550A/18. (See Lion Copy.)

North Atlantic.

Search for supply ship. NELSON and HERMIONE are to comply with Admty. 2000A/17. (ii) HERMIONE is to leave ARGUS joining NELSON after daylight 18/11 and returning to Gibraltar on completion of search. (iii) ARGUS and escort are to return to Gibraltar in accordance with my 2231/15. (S.O. Force H., 0002A/18 to NELSON, HERMIONE, ARGUS.)
Cancel my 0002/18. ARGUS and escort are to remain to westward out of sight of land until dark and pass gate at 2230/19. E.T.A. is not to be reported unless an amendment is required. (S.O. Force H., 2347A/18 to ARGUS.)

DULVERTON, SOUTHWOLD. Arrived Ponta Delgada 0915 G.M.T./18. Left 1645 G.M.T./18. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0910/18, 1455/18 to S.O.I. Gib.)

Gibraltar intelligence areas. Your 1900/15. Consider change of Eastern Limit as proposed in para. 2 is most desirable. 2. In view of fact that battle squadrons operate in this area it is requested that full information including (? general) and target map and photographs may be available at (?Gibraltar) in order that bombing raid may be planned. (S.O. Force H., 0929A/18 to Admty.)

MALAYA. My 2331/13. Repairs completed. MALAYA ready for service. (S.O. Force H., 1011A/18 to Admty.)

CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN, CORRIENTES. My 1140/17. CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN today berthed alongside breakwater immediately astern of CORRIENTES both ship's bows towards south. (Las Palmas, 1130/18 to Admty.)

Boom Vessel. My 1022A/16/10. Request confirmation that a Boom Working Vessel is being sent and approx. date of leaving U.K. (F.O.C.N.A., 1130A/18 to Admty.)

/Prisoners...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Prisoners. Request that results of conversations or statements made by prisoners of war both German and Italian be forwarded to D.N.I. by reference sheet as soon as possible.
(D.N.I., 1220A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

EUGENIO C. (Italian) To B.N.A. Madrid, Commercial Madrid telegram 182 and S.O.(I) Gib.
EUGENIO C sailed this port early this morning 18/11 full load iron ore.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1301/18 to Admty.)

WISHART, VIDETTE. My 1844A/17 (Hush distribution) and my 1332A/18 (N.T. in W.D.). WISHART and VIDETTE detailed. Request approach route of ships to position V be signalled.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1606A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 1606A/18. Your 1844A/17 not received.
(C. in C. S.A., 1752N/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)
W.R. Note:- 1844A/17 now being passed to C. in C. S.A. Received with incorrect D.Gs. Given a "Hush" distribution in Admiralty.
C. in C. South Atlantic's 1752N/18. My 1844A/17 series number 35/707 was incorrectly routed via Whitehall to C. in C. W.A. Request this message may be passed to C. in C. S.A.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2121A/18 to Admty.)
W.R. Note:- F.O.C.N.A.'s 1844A/17 was passed to C. in C. S.A. on receipt of C. in C. S.A's 1752N/18.

WILD SWAN. Your 1202/12. It is not understood why WILD SWAN is being held at Gibraltar for this escort observing that Admty. 1055/5 approved your retaining WILD SWAN for Operation "Chieftain" only if O.G.76 did not arrive in time.
(V.C.N.S. 1729A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ARK ROYAL. Report from D.N.C. on sequence of events (technical), and mystery as to why ship apparently lost all steam.
(Dep. Controller, Bath, 1753/18 to Controller.)
See Lion Copy.

EMPIRE BARRACUDA, EMPIRE PANTHER. To enter Gibraltar and will remain there until further orders.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1910A/18 to STORK, GERANIUM.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

MIRROR, Cable operations.

My 1927/7 and 1226/13/10. MIRROR should start programme by proceeding to 38° 38', 9° 48' to cut and test Italian La Panne - Lisbon to break in Channel. If test figures agree with those supplied, she will join cable to Vigo - Lisbon interrupted near Vigo. Intended subsequently to divert Channel end so as to form new London-Lisbon to link with Lisbon - Gibraltar. Operation should take 24 to 36 hours. Cable & Wireless are supplying Master with test figures and instructions for joining up.
2. On arrival Fayal she should repair Commercial Co.'s Fayal-Waterville No.2 about 6 miles from Fayal, then proceed with (a)
3. Delete (d), being done by CAMBRIA, vide my 1928/7.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1948A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

VARDAAS.

Overdue shipping. VARDAAS due East London 14th from Colombo not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1035B/18 to Admty., etc.)
See China, 0757/19.

Liaison with U.S.N.

Your 1941Z/4. Not considered that your proposals 1 and 2 would serve any useful purpose at present. Your 3 and 4. Navy Dept. Washington is not yet prepared to exchange officers in South Atlantic Area.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1046A/18 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)

CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN.

Following received from Las Palmas:- 2 shipments totalling about 200 tons gas oil fuel in drums sent by sailing vessels to Tenerife ex CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN. This tanker is filling more drums today into German Lighters. 1800/17. (Ends.)
(D.D.I.C., 1125A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

/Force "Q".....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Force "Q". Delete ULSTER MONARCH, ROYAL ULSTERMAN and ROYAL SCOTSMAN from Force "Q".
(C. in C. S.A., 1301N/18 to Force "Q".)

W.S.12. Following received from U.S. Chief of Naval Operations. (Begins). Request escort W.S.12. B.A.D. 1401/1. Due to unexpectedly slow speed of one ship convoy now expected to arrive Capetown 9/12 based on leaving Trinidad 19/11. T.O.O. 1758/17. (Ends.)
(D.O.D. (F) 1326A/18 to C. in C. S.A., etc.)
See also America and West Indies, 1347A/18.

C.M.23. Your 0648/15. Firm date of sailing C.M.23 Sunday 30/11.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1601B/18 to C. in C. E.I.)

SHAHRISTAN Survivors. Cancel my 2316/16 and my 2314/16. The 21 military survivors were sent to Lisbon on 9/11. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange with N.A. Lisbon for onward passage in a Merchant Vessel.
(D.T.D., 1610A/18 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

CANTON, W.S.12X. Your 1347A/18 (see America and West Indies.) CANTON will be in 003° 00' N. 027° 30' W. at 2359/20 and will then sweep to N.W. till 24th. She can be diverted for escort duties as in para. 2. Request R/V with W.S.12X may be signalled if she is required. Necessary to relieve CANTON later as she will have barely enough fuel to reach Capetown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1901N/18 to Admty., B.A.D.)
My 1901/18. Could arrange for BULOLO to relieve CANTON about 27/11 and DERBYSHIRE to relieve BULOLO about 2/12.
(C. in C. S.A., 2031N/18 to Admty., B.A.D.)

HERMES. Force G. Simonstown arrival 1110Z/18 HERMES. Capetown departure 1630Z/18 Force G in accordance with S.O. Force G, 1505/17.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2003Z/18 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., etc.)

HAWKINS, S.L.93(?) O.S.10. Departure 18/11 HAWKINS with convoy S.L.9 (? 93) BRILLIANT, CROCUS, NIGELLE, SOUTHERN PRIDE, CYCLAMEN. Arrivals 18/11 with convoy O.S.10, VANSITTART, MARGUERITE, STARWORT, BURDOCK, FREESIA, VERBENA.
(Freetown, 2217N/19(?18) to Admty., etc.)

/Convoy.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Convoy W.S.12Z. — List, fuel requirements. (D.S.T., 2221A/18 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

SALZBURG, THESSALIA, (German) — Information (B.2) received that on 15/11 SALZBURG, with cargo of cement, timber, 1 ton of aeroplane bombs, and tinned foodstuffs, was ready to sail, probably for Crete, and that THESSALIA, with cargo of ore, tobacco, and dried fruits, was also ready to sail. (D.S., 806.)

UNGVAR mined. — Hungarian UNGVAR, 1000 tons, was mined on 18/11 in the Black Sea. (D.S., 807, 20/11.)

Soviet ships from Black Sea. — Following from Adm. Kelly.
Your 1200B/17 addressed A.N.A. Angora and A.N.A. Istanbul's 1944B/14 to C. in C. Med. I was sending you telegram to exactly the same effect. A.N.A. referred to agreement between Adm. Miles and Russian authorities with which we do not concur. Am most anxious to sail SVANETIA before other ships arrive but difficulty about fuel holds up.
Your 1200B/17 I note (? was not) repeated to Adm. Miles.
(N.A. Angora, (?)229B/18 to C. in C. Med.)

VALIANT. — Four Fulmar aircraft have been despatched to your assistance arriving over ship 1100, FOXGLOVE 6000 Kc/s.
(6 F.J. (Decypher not known in War Reg.), 1055/18 to VALIANT.)
Following has been received from GQZ addressed to VALIANT.
My 1300B/18 negative FORTU 1530.
(Malta W/T, 1535B/18.) W.D. Note:- FORTU = A/C are being sent to your assistance.
FORTU 4 Fulmar at 1700 BANKO 6,000 K/cs.
(201 Group H.Q., 1715/18 to VALIANT.)

/Enemy.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Units, Navarin, SOKOL to attack.

3 important supply ships and possibly escorts taking ? refuge Navarin (as received). Proceed forthwith and endeavour to attack either in harbour or when they sail. So far as is known there are no minefields booms or nets.
(Capt. S.1., 1113B/18 to SOKOL.)

P.34, GLAUCOS, URSULA.

Capt. (S) 1's 1721B and 1745B/16. Submarines proceed to Malta as follows: P.34 and Greek Sub. GLAUCOS through 035° 51' 015° 15' and 036° 00' 014° (? 53') to arrive 0730B, P.34, 21/11,. GLAUCOS 22/11. URSULA through 035° 00' 015° 00' thence as above to arrive before 1800B/21. Own force will be operating to southward of Malta and west of 014° 30' during night of 20/21.
(Capt. S.10, 1118B/18 to S/M's. named.)

UPRIGHT.

Leave patrol to pass through 37° 36' 19° 35' at 2100B/20 thence direct to 35° 51' 15° 15' to arrive Malta 0730B/23. P.31 leave 35° 51' 15° 15' about 1900B/18 through 38° 17' 19° 25' about 0001B/21 thence to 38° 06' 19° 43'.
(Capt. S.10, 1121B/18 to UPRIGHT.)

1 B.S.

German air on 5380 k/cs. Reconnaissance S.E. of Crete (corrupt group) uncertain yet.
(C.O.S., Alexandria, 1126B/18 to F.O.C. 1 B.S.)

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S. of enemy 1 destroyer 2 merchant vessels 35.12 N., 20.08 E., 045°, 15 knots.
(A/C using 7 QBQ, 1130/18.)
Enemy previously reported are of type indicated 1 (destroyer) 4000 tons, 2 merchant vessels 8000 tons.
(Aircraft using 7 QBQ, 1205/18.)

A/S Searches.

One Sunderland is carrying out A S V Search between Alexandria and Ishaila tonight 18/19. One Dornier carrying out A/S search between Alexandria and Kanais dawn/19th.
(201 Naval Co-op. Group, 1207B/18 to Med. Fleet.)

Boom Defences, Turkey.

From B.D.O. to D.B.D. Ref. material for Port T.C.
When may Rocking plates be expected and what are Bobbin fittings? My 1715/15, anchors should be 6 tons. Should work on maintaining Bosphorus boom be necessary Turks will inevitably employ Barbette for this work. There is no repair vessel in Turkey capable of laying Dardanelles boom.
(A.N.A. Istanbul, 1217B/18 to Admty.)

/Operation...

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Aggression"

Naval and military personnel for passage to Tobruk are to be at 6 hours notice to embark as follows:-
(A) Half in one destroyer or GLENROY's escort from 0001/20.
(B) Half in CHAKDINA from 1800/20.
(2) GLENROY's escort is to consist of 3 "Hunt" destroyers as detailed by R.A.D. Med., one being nominated to disembark personnel at Tobruk.
(C. in C. Med., 1256B/18 to G.H.Q. M.E., N.O.I.C. Alexandria.)

V.H/F.

Introduction of V.H/F. into M.E. Command is at present confined to projected fitting of 13 Fighter Squadrons. Intended, however, to equip all R.A.F. Fighters with this type of installation as soon as possible. Not expected that selected squadrons will be converted to V.H/F. working before May 1942.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1534A/18 to C. in C. Med.)

URSULA, UNBEATEN.

My 1745B/16. URSULA leave patrol forthwith and return to Malta passing through 033° 00' 014° 50', 035° 20' 014° 14' thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 10. UNBEATEN remain in present position until 0200B/19 thence area D.1, but to be in the vicinity of 033° 05' 014° 34' by 1200B/20. If nothing sighted by 2200B/20 resume patrol in area D.1.
(Capt. S.1., 1545B/18 to URSULA, UNBEATEN.)
Ref. Capt. (S) 1's 1545B/18. Owing to own force movements follow route given (group missing) 1118B/18 to arrive before 1800B/20 or at 0730B following day.
(Capt. S.10, 2305B/18 to URSULA.)

SOKOL, URGE, UPRIGHT, THUNDERBOLT.

Cancel my 1731B/16. SOKOL proceeding Navarin as in my 1113B/18. URGE returning Malta forthwith through 038° 13' 020° 00', 038° 18' 019° 21', 035° 51' 015° 15'. UPRIGHT proceeding forthwith through 037° 37' 019° 38' to new patrol ordered in my 1647B/18. THUNDERBOLT remaining North of 037° 50' until 0200B/19 then proceeds through 037° 29' 020° 00', 036° 27' 022° 00' to establish patrol in Southern (? Aegean). S/M^S. are not to be attacked during night 18th/19th.
(Capt. S.1., 1641A/18 to S/M's. on Patrol.)

/UPRIGHT.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 18.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

UPRIGHT, P.31, PERSEUS, TRUSTY. Operation B.S. Establish patrol line as quickly as possible 4 - 036° 35' 018° 30' ⫠ 200° - 15 - 290° - 40. Positions are to be taken up as follows (a) 036° 35' 018° 30' UPRIGHT. (b) P.31 (c) TRUSTY (d) PERSEUS. Route to position UPRIGHT as laid down in my 1641B/18 remainder as routed Capt. S.10. After arrival in vicinity patrol position S/M's are not to be attacked. Adjacent S/M's are to endeavour to communicate on S.S/T.
Para. 19. Bring into force condition A.
V.A. Malta please pass to PERSEUS and TRUSTY.
(Capt. S.1., 1647B/18 to S/M's named.)

THUNDERBOLT. PERSEUS. My 1641B/18. Cancel orders for THUNDERBOLT.
My 1847B/18 (1647/18 intended). For PERSEUS read THUNDERBOLT throughout. Remaining to northward of - 037° 50' until 0200B/19 then proceeding through 037° 29' 020° 00' direct to position D 035° 53' 018° 12'.
(Capt. S.1., 2155B/18 to THUNDERBOLT.)

M/V attacked. 17/11, 6 Blenheims shipping search sighted 1245 hours one M.V. 4000 tons one M.V. 2000 tons one escort ship 1500 tons circling 262° Cape Kiev 33 miles, probably Southbound. Bombs dropped from mast height, unable to change bomb load, direct hit bows larger M.V. causing terrific explosion, ship also machine-gunned setting fire to petrol stored on deck. Ship left on fire with columns of smoke seen 30 miles away.

Naples, Brindisi raided. Night 17/18, bad weather, 7 Wellingtons made two nuisance raids, four over Naples 2035 to 0155 hours, three Wellingtons over Brindisi 2040 to 0010 hours.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1700/18.)

GLAUCOS. Have broken off patrol owing to engine defects. Proceeding Malta conforming to Capt. S.10's, 1203B/15. E.T.A. 0730B/19.
(GLAUCOS, 1801B/18 to Capt. S.1., Capt. S.10.)
Your 0801B/18 (1801/18 intended) acknowledged. 2 British cruisers and 2 destroyers expected to arrive Malta 0700B/19 from north-westward.
(Capt. S.10, 2209B/18 to GLAUCOS.)

PERSEUS, TRUSTY. Damage to PERSEUS still under investigation but estimate at least 5 days to complete repairs. In view of your 1503B/18, request instructions for TRUSTY who will be ready to leave for patrol p.m./19.
(Capt. S.10, 1830B/18 to Capt. S.1.)

/PERSEUS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 18.11.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

PERSEUS, P.31.	Arrival 18/11: PERSEUS. Departure P.31. (V.A. Malta, 1911B/18 to Admty.)
Operation Q.1.	Owing to weather conditions 822 Squadron cannot take part in operation Q.1 tonight. (N.L.O. Air H.Q. W.D., 1940B/18 to C.S.15.)
URSULA, R. of P.	Capt. (S) 10's, 1833B/14 (Not circulated in Admiralty. Requested short area report.) Area D.1. No surface or air patrol. 7 days spent route passing North of Q.B. 23, no ship sighted. Unsuccessfully attacked small convoy escorted by torpedo boat in 032° 07' 015° 26' course 310° at 1752/11. 3 Schooners escorted by M/S sighted northbound close inshore off Ras Khara, at 1350/11. (URSULA, 2135B/18 to UNBEATEN.)
U/B.	In 31.15 N., 28.02 E. at 2350/18. (See U-Boat Campaign.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Iraq, co-operation in defence and mine-watching.

Iraq Premier proposes reorganise Iraq Army and purge it of pro-Nazi elements and wishes share in defence Iraq against external aggression. Has asked for role.
2. Following suggested and agreed to at conference between Ambassador G.O.C. and A.O.C. Iraq and Premier. (A) Defence N.E. Frontier Rowanduz to Halebja. (B) Defence of L. of C. Kirkuk-Baghdad-Basra. (C) Minewatching Shatt-El-Arab.
3. We have agreed to this provided oil destruction scheme Kirkuk not thereby prejudiced.
(C. in C. India, 0420/18 to W.O.)

EXCELLENCY.

Have you any news of American ship EXCELLENCY due Colombo 12/11 from Suez?
(D.T.D. 1709A/18 to S.O.I. Colombo.)

French M/Vs. Intelligence Reports.

Your 1750/10 to Admty. Twining was authorised by me on 27/10 to spend up to 10,000 rupees on equipment pending decision as to authority ultimately responsible for cost of service for which equipment is needed. S. of S. for Colonies has deferred authorisation of expansion of the Mauritius listening service pending further consideration. This is therefore the best I could do. Trusts it meets your requirements.
(Govr. Mauritius No T.O.O./18 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Miri Oilfields.

I have arranged to transfer my responsibilities regarding Miri oil denial scheme to C. in C. Far East on 20/11.
(C. in C. China, 04132/18 to Admty. etc.)

ANHUI.

Your telegram 133 of 13/11. ANHUI will leave Hong Kong for Tientsin 24/11 provided that assurance asked for from Tokyo has been received before then.
(C. in C. China 05052/18 to Brit. Embassy, Shanghai.)

/French ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China- contd.

French Shipping. Arrival GOUVERNER GENERAL PASQUIER 17/11, GOUVERNER GENERAL ALEXANDRE VARENNE. Departure 16/11 LAOS for Shanghai. (Act. Consul-Gen., Saigon, 0734Z/18 to M. of W.T.)

Japanese A/A Ships. 3 Japanese M/Vs (?converted) to A.A. ships were present at Shanghai on 16/11 (a) ATUTASAN MARU, 8660 G.T., 3 3-inch guns forward, 6 3-inch guns aft, 3 automatics amidships. (b) sister ship (a) similar armaments except 8 automatics amidships. (c) 8000 tons ship 2 3-inch and 2 automatic guns.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore 0858Z/18 to Admty.)

BOUGAINVILLE (French) Left Haiphong for Saigon 16/11.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore 1014Z/18 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

P.551
P.511 Your 0941A/16 (sent by W.R.) following is a repetition of my 1901R/13 addressed to C.O.A.C., B.A.D. Washington:- Intend to sail P.551 at 1300/14, S. of A. 12 knots, and P.511 at 1600/14 S. of A. 11 knots, routed as in your 1626Z/11 (ends).
(B.N.L.O. Portsmouth N.H., 0845R/18 to Admty.)

TULIP
INDOMITABLE. TULIP is to be sailed so as to arrive Kingston Jamaica 24/11 to attend on INDOMITABLE. Probable date of return to Trinidad 11/12. B.A.D. Washington pass to INDOMITABLE.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0922Z/18 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)
Your 1837/17. Concur in programme. TULIP will be detailed to attend on ship at Jamaica. No other ship is available. B.A.R.M. pass to INDOMITABLE. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0932Z/18 to B.A.R.M.)

/ODENWALD ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

ODENWALD. Your 1255/17. Following is a repetition of C. in C. A. and W.I. 1509/15 to S.O.(I) Jamaica and B.A.D. only: German ship 799 being taken direct to Puerto Rico. Left Yokohama 2 months ago disguised as NIKA MARU and changed to U.S. ship WILLMOTO on rounding Cape Horn. Valuable cargo includes 4000 tons rubber. All documents being sent to Washington (ends). Efforts are being made to obtain further information.
(B.A.D. 1205R/18 to C. in C. S.A.)
C. in C. S.A. 1255/17. Request you pass any information you may have had from U.S. Authorities direct to C. in C. S.A.
(B.A.D. 1745R/18 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)
My 2257/17. Information was supplied to Admiral Hodges in Trinidad.
(Opnav, 2105Z/18 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
ODENWALD, seized after scuttling attempt on 6/11, taken to San Juan, Puerto Rico by U.S. forces. She left Yokohama 19/7 and has a valuable cargo, including 4000 tons of rubber. U.S. Govt. has formally taken over the ship. Prize Court decided that the ship was salvage and awarded it to U.S.A. (D.S. 806 19/11.)

ORIZABA
W.S.12 X. W.S.12 X. ORIZABA fuel consumption exceeds original estimate. Effective radius now estimated at 4500 miles. This will necessitate fuelling at a British port between Capetown and final destination and on return to Capetown.
(B.A.D., 1315R/18 to Admty.)

W.S.12. Your 1758/17. (W.D.Note - Repeated in Admty. 1326A/18, see South Atlantic).
To avoid delay in arrival at destination and clashing with other large convoy at Capetown which reduction of speed will cause request you consider sailing convoy without slow ship and providing separate escort for latter. 2. C. in C. S.A. report to Admiralty and B.A.D. Washington if he can provide A.M.C. Escort for slow ship over major portion of route in case this will assist. 3. Request name of slow transport.
(1st S.L. 1347A/18 to Opnav, C. in C. S.A.)
W,S.12. Your 1347A/18 referred to C. in C. Lant for comment. Slow transport U.S.S. LEONARD WOOD.
(Opnav 1633Z/18 to Admty.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

O.N.37. O.N.37 escort unit 4.1.8 SWANSON (S.O) GREER, LUDLOW, MC.CORMICK, BUCK.
(Opnav 1430/18 to Admty.)

Opnav Situation Reports. As a guide in advising Opnav on form of his daily situation report, request details of your daily situation report particularly on following points:-
(a) Are troops and special convoys included?
(b) What independent merchant ships are included?
(c) What fleet units are included?
(d) What small independent naval units are included?
(e) At what time staff start to compile report?
(f) At what time is report normally transmitted?
(B.A.D. 1515R/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

Routes for Ships for Russia. Soviet N.A. has (?asked for) information re routeing of Ships to Archangel and Persian Gulf; (b) Method of communication to be used between Commodores of Convoys and S.Os of Escorts with Soviet Naval Shore and Seagoing Authorities. Above information is required by Adm. Isakoff . Soviet N.A. has been told information is not available in U.S. but that Admty. is being requested to give necessary information to U.S.S.R. Authorities.
(N.A. Washington 1606R/18 to Admty.)

DIDO. Approved for DIDO to sail Boston on Wednesday 3/12 proceeding Bermuda.
(B.A.R.M. 1744R/18 to DIDO.)

OLGA TOPIC. incorrectly reported sunk by raider.

Reports by HERMA and IGOR. Your 1233/18 (Raider distress message intercepted by Greek Steamer.) Rumour here that OLGA TOPIC was sunk three days out from Balboa and that there were two survivors. Speed of ship was 10 knots. 2. Captain of Norwegian S.S. HERMA now at Savannah, Georgia, states that on the 6 or 7/11 when between Chile and Panama Canal about 200 miles south of Balboa he sighted a vessel of about 7000 tons mounting a gun on forecastle and in stern, flying American flag and had it painted on her sides, proceeding in a S.W. direction at 9 or 10 knots. She looked like an old Italian ship. 3. No American ship of this description was in that area.
4. Further enquiries being made.
(B.A.D. 1801R/18 to Admty., S.O.(I) Jamaica 2047R/18.)
W.D. Note.- Vessel sighted by HERMA believed to be U.S. Army Transport HENRY GIBBONS. See B.A.D. 0955R/20. OLGA TOPIC arrived Iquique 2000 G.M.T./20 (see S.O.I.Jamaica 1830R/20.)

/French ...

MOST SECRET.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

French Shipping. Dutch Ships seized.	Dakar 17/11. A.1. Arrived from Northward, CARTHAGE, PLATON, GRAND QUEVILLY, BRESTOIS, PORT DE BOUC. From Port Etienne, OUED FES and SAINT CYRILLE. Algiers 17/11. B.2. French Authorities have seized Dutch ships PLUTO and RHEA. (B.A.D. 1819R/18 to S.O.I. Freetown.)
U.S. and Convoy Escorts.	Reply to B.A.D. 1801R/12. (V.C.N.S. 1917A/18) See Lion Copy.
AGAMEMNON CALIFORNIA.	B.A.R.M. 1558R/14, (N.T. in W.R.) Admty.1117A/8. B.A.R.M. requested to report accommodation available for Air Force personnel from Halifax to U.K. in AGAMEMNON. C.O.A.C. Halifax to report accommodation Air Force personnel in CALIFORNIA. Present estimate is these ships will be sailed from Halifax for Clyde in company 23/11. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2017Z/18 to B.A.R.M., C.O.A.C. Admty.)
O.N.36.	O.N.36, serial No. 4 S, reported 4 hours early at M.O.M.P. (U.S.C.N.O. 2021Z/18 to Cdr. Task Unit 4.1.12)
Adm.Muselier in Newfoundland.	Your 1356Z/14. Admiral has requested that visit be kept secret for the time being. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1330A/18 to C.C.N.F.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.11.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approximate positions of U-boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1452A/18, 1453A/18.)

1455. Suspect U-boat 63.28 N., 23.04 W.
(A/C using call sign N.Q.8F. 1455/18, to A/C of 302 Squadron.)
A/C F's 1455N, S/M was actually sighted at 12 miles on course 340° before diving.
(A.C.I.C., 1813N/18, to S. and A., Orkneys and Shetlands.)

0940 N. Aircraft reports large A.S.V. echo within 25 miles of 067° 45' N., 025° 20' W., at 0940N/18. Unable close contact owing to fog.
(C. in C.H.F., 1703Z/18, to SUFFOLK.)

Mediterranean. 2350. Am over enemy submarine in 31.15 N., 28.02 E. Unable to attack flares failed.
(Med. A/C 2350/18 to 201 Group.)

Submarines Attacked.

FERRARIS sunk by LAMERTON. Their Lordships congratulate you, your officers and ship's company on the destruction of the Italian U-boat FERRARIS on 25/10/1941.
(1st. Sea Lord, 1437A/18, to LAMERTON.)

U/B sunk by MARIGOLD. Their Lordships congratulate you, your Officers and ship's company on the destruction of a German U-boat on 16/11/1941. 2. They note with particular satisfaction that initial detection was made by R.D/F.
(1st. Sea Lord 1727A/18, to MARIGOLD.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Weather. Harwich was closed from 0750A to 1201A today, on account of fog. Sailings from the Humber were also held up. Wick harbour was also closed this morning.

Faroes-Iceland (C) Patrol. C.S.1 in NORFOLK sailed from Scapa at 1151 today to relieve SHEFFIELD.

CASTLETON damaged. An explosion occurred at 0854Z today in CASTLETON in about 58° 5' N. 10° 54' W. The ship's bottom is holed and she is proceeding at 15 knots with Convoy S.D.16. LANCASTER reports the cause of the explosion to be possibly a mining or scuttling charge.

British Air Operations.

3 Stirlings attacked the estimated position of the PRINZ EUGEN at Brest last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

Slight damage from bombing is reported in Murmansk.

Mining.

Operation S.N.25 C. MENESTHEUS and NEWARK arrived at Port Z.A. this afternoon from a minelaying operation off the Butt of Lewis.

/Sheerness....

MOST SECRET.

0

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining-Contd.

Sheerness was closed at 0041 today.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Chieftain" — ARGUS returned to Gibraltar at 2356A today, with LAFOREY, LIGHTNING, LEGION and ISAAC SWEERS.

Mediterranean.

Malta. — One bomber dropped incendiaries at 0035. At 0346 8 bombers approached but none crossed the coast, and they dropped bombs in the sea and on the shore without causing any damage.

Air Operations. — 5 Naval aircraft laid mines in the Marsala area last night.
3 Wellingtons attacked Brindisi from 1912/18 to 0230/19, obtaining hits in the area of the oil tanks and fort, and causing fires in the docks and town. 2 Wellingtons carried out nuisance raids over Naples last night, obtaining hits on the docks and railway.

Submarine exchanges. — P.36, P.37, P.38 and P.39 are to proceed to the Mediterranean to join the 10th Flotilla and TURBULENT and TEMPEST to join the 1st Flotilla (P.36 about 18/12, the remainder during January). URSULA, UTMOST, UPRIGHT, TRIUMPH and OTUS are to return home to refit.

/Libya.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Libya and Western Desert.

3 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 1817/18 to 0315/19.
NAIAD and EURALYUS were detached from the battlefleet and carried out a bombardment of the Halfaya area last night. The bombardment is reported to have been successful in spite of the absence of aircraft on account of bad weather. The weather improved this evening.

China.

In the event of war with Japan the following convoys will be established.

Melbourne to Singapore	M.S.
Singapore to Melbourne	S.M.
Colombo to Singapore	J.S.
Singapore to Colombo	S.J.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

RESOLUTION. RESOLUTION will be required to join the Eastern Fleet probably not sailing before mid-December.
2. Stores and provisions are to be embarked before proceeding abroad to maximum capacity, subject to not interfering with fighting efficiency.
3. A minimum of 44 day's sea victualling is to be included.
(D.O.D. F., 1228A/19 to RESOLUTION)

Fishguard Ferry Services. A.M.1153A/18. Situation has not changed since my 2309B/4/8. Consider procedure proposed therein should be adhered to.
(C. in C. W.A., 1645A/19).

W.A. Escort Groups. In order to make the most economical and best offensive use of my forces I propose the following basis for reorganisation:-
(i) Eight escort groups each consisting of 3 destroyers and about 6 corvettes, for escort duty between U.K. and M.O.M.P.
(ii) Eleven homogeneous special groups, each consisting of about 5 destroyers, whose principal duties will be:-
(a) to operate against concentrations of submarines
(b) to reinforce escort groups where most needed
(c) to provide special escorts.
(iii) Gibraltar and Sierra Leone Groups as now constituted.
(C. in C. W.A., 1932A/19 to Admty).

D.A/S.W. Meeting. Admty 0031A/11. Following are items for Agenda for D.A/S W.'s meeting.
(C. in C. W.A., 1950A/19 to D.A/S.W.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Liaison Officer with Home Fleet.

U.S. Authorities having proposed appointment of a U.S. Navy Liaison Officer to your command when desired by C. in C. U.S. Naval Forces Northern Europe after entry of U.S. into war, Admiralty are concurring generally. It is under consideration however to put to the U.S. authorities the point that since, under the terms of Plan 5, the possibility already exists of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet co-operating tactically with the British Home Fleet in an emergency, we would welcome an American Officer in the flagship of the Home Fleet now. Your remarks on this suggestion are requested. (V.C.N.S., 2025A/19 to C. in C. H.F.)

Situation Reports.

Your 1515R/18. Replies to questions. (C. in C. W.A., 2359A/19 to B.A.D.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Information to Ambassador.

Following for Maclay.
Sir Stafford Cripps wishes to have copies of all important telegrams sent by or received by you.
2. We shall repeat to him where necessary telegrams sent from or through London to you.
3. Whenever possible please repeat your own telegrams direct to Kuibyshev indicating repetition in text of message.
4. If repetition is not possible please specify in each case that we are to repeat message to the Ambassador.
5. While appreciating difficulties we should be glad if you would as far as possible agree messages before despatch with S.B.N.O. where necessary to avoid confusion here, reference your telegram No. 21 and 0648A/15 from S.B.N.O. giving different estimates for Molotvsk. We assume your estimate of maximum 4 non-tanker berths still holds good.
6. We are repeating to Kuibyshev as Mossy 73. (D. of S.T., 2344A/19 to N.S.C.O. Archangel).

Defence of the U.K.

Thames Estuary A/A defences.

S.O.T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1723/19. Understand indications given by R.D.F. were slight and A.A. gunfire from shore ineffective. Unless more effective measures can be taken considerable risks exist that convoys in and out of Thames will be seriously delayed. In mean time request

/representations.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K. - Contd.

Thames Estuary A/A defences Contd.

representations be made that replacement of A.A. batteries recommended in my 3418/332A/41/J of 17th February and approved in principle in A.L.M. 011349/41 of 9th August may be expedited. (C. in C. Nore, 2224A/19 to Admty).

Movements.

SEALION.

Negative Patrol. Returning along latitude ? 72° N., and route ? Y. Expect to arrive rendezvous 1200C/20. Have one severely injured Norwegian on board.
(SEALION, 0230C/19 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).
Your 0230C/19. Your escort SHTORM class destroyer at rendezvous R one - 1200C/20.
Soviet CHUKA class submarine 403, E.T.A. at R/V S one from the eastward at 1100C/20, routed through 69° 45' N., 36° 10' E.
Admiralty pass to SEALION.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1601C/19 to SEALION).

COLTSFOOT.

Your 2130A/18. P.C.S. 035° 32' N., 012° 29' W., 097°, 9.5 knots.
(COLTSFOOT., 0745/19 to C. in C. W.A.)

RAMILLIES, EREBUS. VANQUISHER, WITCH.

Intend sailing RAMILLIES escorted by BADSWORTH, CROOME for Scapa 1330A/20. Speed of advance 11½ knots. E.T.A. 0930A.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1034A/19).
Admiralty 1540A/17. As considerable stores and oil have to be embarked in Clyde before sailing intend to adjust programme so as to arrive Clyde P.M./30. Request R.A.3 may be informed.
(RAMILLIES, 1244/19).
My 1926A/17. Escort for RAMILLIES and EREBUS (?is to be) VANQUISHER and WITCH now at Londonderry. (C. in C. W.A., 1554A/19)
Sailed VANQUISHER and WITCH in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1554/19.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 2349A/19)

GARDAK (Turkish).

A.M.2001/18/11. Crane components of A.L.GARNA already stowed in GARDAK for passage. Should these be disembarked. A.L. GARNA cannot carry them herself. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1058/19).

/Floating....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.- Contd.

Floating Crane.	Your 1801A/18. ROCHESTER detailed. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1112A/19 to C. in C. W.A.)
H.44.	Intend sailing H.44 escorted by ST. CATHAN from Lough Foyle at 1900A/21 arriving Rothesay daylight 22 (Capt. D. Londonderry, 1133A /19). At 2200A/23 intend to sail H.44 escorted by ST. CATHAN from Rothesay to arrive 180° Wolf Rock 5 miles at 0800A/26. S. of A. 8 knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock, is requested to arrange fighter protection. Thence H.44 proceeds to dive by day to Portsmouth through following positions to R.V at 0800A/28 in 050° 31' N., 00° 41' W. (Capt. S.7., 1336A/19).
HONNINGVAAG.	Your 1424A/17. Expect ? to sail HONNINGVAAG in 5 or 6 days time on completion of D.G. repairs and fitting of four inch gun. (A.C.I.C., 1535/19 to Admty).
A.F.D.XIV	In tow of EMPIRE LARCH sailed escorted by MORGAN JONES and NORTHNESS. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1600/19).
CILICIA.	Intend sailing CILICIA 1100A/23 to arrive Clyde 1700A/23. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1653A/19 and 0943A/20).

/PRINSES....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

PRINSES ASTRID. My 1918/17. Arrangements have been made for PRINSES ASTRID to be taken in hand for refit by Green and Silley Weir, Royal Albert Docks, London. She is to be sailed to Thames North about as soon as possible.
Four Eurekas are to be carried on passage.
The remaining four of her flotilla are to remain at Inveraray.
(D.O.D. H., 1837A/19 to V.A. C.T.C.)

BEVERLEY. Detach BEVERLEY to Londonderry forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A., 2241A/19 to SARDONYX)

VENOMOUS. VENOMOUS in tow of MASTODONTE arrived at Rothesay. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2254A/19).

PUNJABI. PUNJABI is to sail from Hvalfjord at 0900Z/21 and, failing other instructions from V.A.2., is to proceed Rosyth to be taken in hand for refit. (C. in C. H.F., 2307Z/19)

PUCKERIDGE. My 1817A/18 and 0707A/19. Movement of PUCKERIDGE postponed a further 24 hours.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2333A/19)

Operations.

Operation Q.K.4. Weather permitting carry out operation Q.K.4 with 2 M.L's as ordered in my 1042A/14/10 with Q.K. (3) (9) and (10) as alternative operations.
(C. in C. Nore, 1028A/19 to BEEHIVE)
Departure M.T.B's 18 and 100.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1611A/18).

Interception of Heavy Units. Scapa departures F.O.C. 1st C.S. in NORFOLK.
(A.C.O.S., 1151A/19).
Return to Hvalfjord at best speed weather permitting. (C. in C. H.F., 1218Z/19 to SUFFOLK)
Attention is called to Q.Z.X471. There are no Q Z messages not held by you which affect you.
(F.O.S., 1242A/19 to TRIDENT).
Your 1242A/19. Q.Z.X.471 not held. Only Q.Z. messages affecting passage are on board. My P.C.S. at 2000A 065° 45' N., 006° 52' E., 198° 10½ . (TRIDENT., 2209A/19 to F.O.S.)

East Coast. Departure M.G.B's 87 and 89 on special duties.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 1400A/19).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity

Patrols.

"Polar" and "Bear" not in operation. (A.C.I.C., 1103N/19)
P.R.U. of Trondheim, Aalesund, and Bergen in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1307/19)
Cancel A.M.1338A/18. These patrols may be withdrawn. (A.C.N.S. H., 1950A/19 to A.O.C. in C., C.C.)

PRINZ EUGEN bombed.

From 16/11 to 18/11 inclusive there were not operations owing to unsuitable weather.
On Night 18/19, three A/C attacked PRINZ EUGEN at Brest. One A/C dropped 16 - 500 S.A.P. bombs on estimated position of cruiser. No detailed results were observed although the flashes of the bomb bursts were seen reflected in the clouds. 2 further A/C dropped their load on the estimated position of the target, results unseen. (H.Q.B.C., 1500/19).

Direction of Fighter A/C.

It is important to exercise H.M. ships in directing fighters. This could best be done in conjunction with routine P.M. A.A.C.E.
A suitable arrangement would be to have a fighter A/C patrolling over the Flow by the time A.A.C.E. is due to start. The approach of fighters if below 10,000 feet would be in accordance with O.S. general orders 104 (iii) and 110 and (?394) by F A I T. The ships detailed to conduct exercise then direct fighter A/C on to the A A C E A/C.
It is proposed that establishment F.R.U. should be increased to two fighters of type distinctive from Rocs and with high frequency R.T. Until these are available 880 Squadron Hurricanes which are at Skeabrae could be used. Exercise would only be carried out if "Falcon" is in force. Request you will remark.
(C. in C. H.F., 1601Z/19 to A.C.O.S.)

764 Squadron.

Your letter No. S 75056/89 of 10th November, and previous correspondence about No. 764 Squadron (at Lawrenny Ferry) attached to R.A.F. Station Pembroke Dock. Proposed to detach from R.A.F. Station and name establishment R.N. Air Station, Lawrenny Ferry. Have you any objection. (Head of Air Branch 2108A/19 to Air Ministry).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.55. attacked on 17/11.

Following received from HOLDERNESS begins. Attack on F.N.55 last night was carried out between 1708 and 1803 in vicinity of 54F buoy. F.N.55 and F.S.48 were passing when it started. About 15 aircraft attacked first Do. 17 and then Ju. 88. Aircraft circled in waiting position about 3 miles on starboard bow of convoy but out of sight, and then came in singly or in pairs at about 2,000 feet. A.A. fire disconcerted the enemy but several ships were nearly hit, suggest night fighters would be effective in the waiting position of the enemy. 1415A/18. Ends.
(C. in C. Nore, 0114A/19)

RUDMORE A/C shot down on 17/11.

S.S. RUDMORE reports shooting down Dornier 17th off Great Yarmouth 1845/17 by direct hit with 12 Pounder gun whilst on passage in F.N.55. Tail of plane shot off. Plane nose dived into sea 300 yards astern. (N.C.S.O. Blyth, 1115/19)

HORTEN damaged.

At 1400 today one aircraft made two attacks on H.N.M.S. HORTEN patrolling off Nolso Lighthouse. Near misses causing considerable damage to auxiliary machinery, and one man lost overboard. Name. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1630A/19)

Murmansk bombed.

Bombs dropped in the vicinity. Slight damaged in Murmansk. (151 Wing, 1845/19 to Air Ministry)

Mining.

Sheerness.

Port closed owing to suspected minelaying. (Com. in C. Sheerness, 0041/19).

Thames Estuary.

22 Mines were dropped in the Thames Estuary on night 18/19 as follows. Details. Ten explosions caused by mines also occurred as follows. Details. (X.D.O. Sheerness, 0120/19 and 1059/19).
There was an intense period of minelaying activity over the Thames Estuary between 1905 and 1940/18. Thirty splashes, all almost certainly mines, were heard in the boom and adjoining areas, and were plotted with some degree of accuracy. Of these no splashes were seen and only two objects were observed in the air.

/3....

War Diary. 19.11.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Thames Estuary. Contd.	3. One plotted mine exploded on falling and ten in other areas exploded on being laid, seven on the Maplin Sands and one off Minster. 4. The night was very dark 7/10 cloud with light airs and a smooth sea. The planes appeared, by their sound, to be flying low but none were seen. 5. Balloons were flown at between 4,000 and 5,000 feet. 6. There was very little gunfire from ships on account of nothing being seen, but I feel that even a very inaccurate blind barrage should have been used as a deterrent. No heavily armed ships apart from the boom vessels themselves were stationed in the boom area. Three Eagle ships and one gunboat were in the outer estuary. 7. There was very little gunfire from shore guns. 8. The mines laid in the outer estuary appeared generally to be away from the Channels but these in the inner estuary were very accurately placed. 9. Experience when flying has shown that the Coast line and the boom are visible even on very dark nights. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness, 1723/19).
Dee Estuary.	One magnetic mine detonated by M. M/S 3 in 012° Hilbre Beacon (Dee Estuary) 1.2 miles. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0910A/19).
Plymouth.	Red mine detonated at 0740/19, 000° Eddystone 3 miles. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1245/19)
N.L.22.	My 1452A/18. Intend to carry out this operation tonight. (V.A. Dover, 1504A/19).

Enemy Intelligence.

Off Sogne Fiord.	Two Destroyers bearing 250°. My position 60° 52' N., 4° 55' E., (portion missed) Fiord. (A/C N. Squadron, 0840/19 to 18th R/C Group)

/Unknown....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.11.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

Unknown Ship. My 1824/18. Having further questioned Masters of these three ships I am of the opinion that the sighting took place at 2230/15 and not at 2230/16 as in their previous statement. The ship therefore was probably Swedish UDDERHOLM. (A.C.O.S., 1627/19 to Admty).

E-boats. Expect attack on F.S. 50 by E-boats tonight. (C. in C. Nore, 1730A/19).
Suspected E-boat activity. (Harwich C& C.O. 2113A/19)
E-boats may be on inner channel. (C. in C. Nore, 2317A/19)

Navigational

J. Buoy. It is reported that J Buoy light in Thames Approaches is too bright. It is requested that the visibility of this light may be altered to conform with my 2141A/7/9. (C. in C. Nore, 0045A/19).

Harwich. Port closed owing to fog. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0750A/19)
Port is open. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1201A/19).

Iceland Lights. The following lights in Iceland are extinguished. Details. All Light Buoys in Hvalfjordur are dimmed. (A.C.I.C. 1003N/19).

Kola Inlet. A/S Defences. Your 1921/16. Confirmed. (A.C.O.S., 1003/19 to Admty).

Ice in Baltic. Though weather has been milder, effective icing of Bothnian ports continues as far south as 56° North. Already the north Finnish ports, which are the more severely frozen, have been vacated by shipping. Lulea approaches now maintained open by icebreakers and unlikely to close until mid-December. (N.A. Stockholm, 1804/19).

54 F. Buoy. Light extinguished. (MAILLARD, 1934A/19).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

STARBANK (Trawler) rammed.

Have rammed fishing trawler position 212° Tiumpan Head 16 miles. Am towing to Stornoway. Request tug to take off my hands.
(FOXTROT, 0215A/19 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).
Propose sailing Tug MARAUDER to take over tow of fishing trawler. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 0313A/19)
My 0313A/19. MARAUDER sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 0352A/19).
Trawler STARBANK which was in collision with FOXTROT now beached at Stornoway.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1636A/19).

TRIUNFO.

Intercepted 0136 G.M.T. S.O.S. from Lohi.
We are sinking by the bows. Send immediate help. (Portishead Radio, Recd. 0340/19).
Intercept 0608 G.M.T. De Lohi.
Steamer TRIUNFO. Stranded (?) in mid-ocean (?)
Situation critical. There are survivors on board. Captain Lajanati. (Portishead Radio, Recd. 0735/19)

CASTLETON damaged.

CASTLETON reports explosion forward and has holed bottom near Asdic dome (.?) Cause at present unknown. Forward oil tank leak.
Has placed collision mat and is proceeding 15 knots.
Casualties 2 badly (?disabled) one missing.
My position 1000Z, 058° 05' N., 010° 54' W., course 155°. Am proceeding with S.D.16.
(LANCASTER, 0940/19).
My 0940Z/19. Explosion occurred 0854Z in CASTLETON.
Ship's side holed, vicinity upper and lower (sound?) rooms.
W/T bulkhead number 12 and W/T bulkhead number 34 holding, and compartment(s) between flooded to water level.
Cause of explosion possibly mining or scuttling charge.
Ship can do 15 knots whilst weather remains fine.
Missing man has been found killed. (Name).
(LANCASTER, 1100Z/19).
E.T.A. Clyde CASTLETON and S.D.16 0800A/20.
(LANCASTER, 2130A/19).

/ARETHUSA...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

ARETHUSA. My 2351A/18. Admiralty are sending Messrs. Elliotts Representative to inspect A.F.C.T. and ask for suitable date.
(V.A. 2., 1110A/19 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 1110/19 as soon as possible.
(C. in C. H.F., 2246Z/19 to V.A.2.)

?LAN. Following received from Port Patrick radio. Received at 1533 G.M.T. De Malin Head Radio. Heard S O S from LAN not sure LAN, position 45° 25' N., Jammed Seaforth radio. No more Not rebroadcast. Port Patrick radio.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1633/19 to Admty).

WAR WING (M/S Trawler). Departure Tug KENIA to assistance of WAR WING.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1731A/19).
Arrival KENIA with WAR WING in tow.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1908A/19).

CAVEROCK. Following received from D.O. Whitby begins:-
S.S. CAVEROCK which went ashore on the night of 29/10 has now been refloated by one tug at 1800 and now proceeding towards Hartlepool.
1815/19 ends. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1830/19).
My 1830/19. CAVEROCK berthed Hartlepool.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 2255/19).

MANXMAN. Request you will send MANXMAN to Port Z.A. at earliest convenient date to clean boilers.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1945A/19 to C. in C. H.F.)

GARTH. Disabled, unable to steam. My position 56A.
(GARTH, 2154/19).
Foremost magazine and No. 1 boiler room flooded.
Am unable to steam as I have no feed water.
Position to S.E. of 56 buoy.
(GARTH, 2210A/19).

RAMSAY. S.S. RAMSAY now in Bershaven. Request early report of damage and prospect of moving.
(D.T.D., 2219A/19 to U.K. Shipping Adviser, Cork).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

F.N.57. Sailing of F.N. 57 postponed 24 hours due to mining. (C. in C. Nore, 0012A/19).
My 1201/10, 1225/16, 1302/18, 1654/18. F.N.57 postponed 24 hours. Escorts VIVIEN, SLEIPNER. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1015/19).

F.N.56. My 1803/18. No ship sailed from Humber owing to fog. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 0951/19).

PENTLAND FIRTH NARVIK. Proceed slow speed toward position (K) 055° 30' N., 007° 30' W., (L) 055° N., 015° W. Report situation 1500A/19.
(C. in C. W.A., 1105A/19 to PENTLAND FIRTH).

EMPIRE WIDGEON, EMPIRE EGRET. Your 1955/16. Nos. 1131 and 1275 will sail tomorrow. (D.S.T.O., Liverpool, 1220/19 to D. of S.T.)

F.S.50. Departures at 1410 VESPER, GARTH in company to join F.S.50.
(F.O. Humber, 1435A/19).
Following from WOLSEY begins - As convoy F.S.50 now consists of 59 ships, request additional escort VESPER and GARTH may remain with convoy after daylight as far as destination, 1515A/19 end.
VESPER has been ordered to remain in company. Inform WOLSEY in morning regarding GARTH.
(C. in C. Nore, 1811A/19 to Capt. D.21).
Proceed forthwith to meet F.S.50 due number 5 buoy 0300. On meeting form additional escort taking stations as ordered by WOLSEY.
(C. in C. Nore, 2305A/19 to HAMBLEDON, QUORN).

CAPIRA, VILLE D'ANVERS COCLE, EL CAPITAN, SAN AMBROSIA (Q.P.4). Your 1607A/16. CAPIRA and VILLE D'ANVERS masters had no instructions from owners and stated their intention proceed U.K. to load on regular berth for America. VILLE D'ANVERS required cargo for stability and only cargo for America was timber which appeared pointless, therefore I agreed U.K. cargo both ships.
2. What are your instructions for COCLE and EL CAPITAN also SAN AMBROSIA on completion of discharge.
3. There are 3,000 tons Chrome available now and possibly a further 4,000 tons arriving shortly intended for British ships in Q.P.4. Also indications of another 30,000 tons up to end of December for British ships.
4. View of your advice prohibiting America ships loading for U.K. I cannot see how they can be immersed for ice conditions except with timber cargo. Please advise if this agreeable if essential.

/5....

MOST SECRET.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

CAPIRA,
VILLE D'ANVERS
COCLE,
EL CAPITAN,
SAN AMBROSIA.
(Q.P.4)
Contd.

5. Russians unwilling to give cost of loading ore and general cargo.
(Maclay, Archangel, 1450C/19 to Admty.)

C.T.7.

Intend sailing convoy C.T.7. consisting of PASTEUR, GLENARTNEY, LANARKSHIRE escorted by GARLAND P.M./22 to R/V with BELMONT from Liverpool in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0900A/23. Thence as in A.M. 2003A/18.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1504A/19.)

Murmansk facilities.

My 1746C/8 and my letter 80/126/M of 12/11 in course of post.
By orders from Moscow 35 ton floating crane is shortly to be towed from Murmansk to Archangel. This will leave a 25 ton floating crane as the only crane Murmansk for dealing with heavy goods. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1635C/19.)

P.Q.4.

BERWICK, ONSLOW, OFFA left Seidisfiord 1500 for P.Q.4. (A.C.I.C., 1635N/19).

P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys.

S.B.N.O. Archangel's 0905/13. It is appreciated that the estimate of convoys of 6 ships at 8 day intervals is probably the most practicable from the point of view of speed of handling at Archangel.
2. Operational requirements, however, preclude the possibility of providing the increased number of escorts required for this cycle.
3. Until events prove its impracticability it is intended to endeavour to maintain a 10 day cycle. So far as can be foreseen the numbers of ships per convoy from P.Q.6. onward will be four to five from America and three to four from U.K.
4. If it can be foreseen that Archangel will be unable to handle all ships simultaneously in any one convoy either through congestion in the port or limitations of icebreakers, the Russians should be pressed for the balance of the ships to be discharged at Murmansk, or for alternate convoys to be diverted to Murmansk as proposed in your 1550C/17.
(V.C.N.S., 1635A/19.)

/V.C.N.S. ...

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys Contd.

It is proposed that ships in Q.P. convoys should disperse after reaching longitude 15° East and proceed independently:-
(a) Ships returning to U.S.A. would proceed to Kuyreyri and thence by inshore route to Hvalfiord for orward convoy.
(b) Ships returning to U.K. would proceed to Seidis Fiord for onward escort to U.K.
2. With long hours of darkness in northern latitudes it is considered risk from air and surface attack is small and can be accepted. The above proposal will effect a welcome saving in escort commitments and should also accelerate the turn round of the faster ships.
3. Request you will ask C.N.O. if he concurs in this proposal.
(V.C.N.S., 1636A/19 to B.A.D Washington).

O.N.38
MARIT 2.

Inform Commodore that MARIT 2 from O.S.12 is sailing from Belfast to overtake. If not joined before Cape Wrath R/V she will proceed to Loch Ewe.
(C. in C. W.A., 2336A/19 to BODO).

MOST SECRET.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Gibraltar.	To be developed as intermediate staging post in ferry service Bathurst to U.K. Plans. (W.O. 0115/19 to Governor, Gibraltar). See Lion Copy.
NELSON HERMIONE.	My 2000/17, paras. 3 and 4. Do not proceed W. of 18° 30' W. (D.O.D.(F) 0532A/19 to ships named.) E.T.A.0800A/21. My position 42.10, 16.40. Weather report. (HERMIONE 2100A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Situation.	Report No.1. H.M. Ships and Convoys. (F.O.C.N.A. 1230A/19, 1252A/19) See Lion Copy.
SAMPHIRE. RHODODENDRON.	E.T.A. Europa Point 0300A/20. Following ships have defects, SAMPHIRE boiler brick work, RHODODENDRON crank shaft bearings. (DEPTFORD, 1230A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)
JOAO PESSOA. (German)	Arrival 18th to load Iron Ore. (Consul, Bilbao, 1549/19.)
DEPTFORD.	My estimated position 2000A/19, 35.50 N. 04.00 W. (DEPTFORD 1645A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)
WILD SWAN.	Your 1729A/18. In order to effect economy in escort my intentions regarding WILD SWAN were given in my 1202A/12 on which no comment was made. Moreover, WILD SWAN was used in "Chieftain" as BRADFORD ex O.G.76 was defective. (F.O.C.N.A. 1742A/19 to Admty.)
NELSON.	A.M.1658A/19 and A.M.1404A/19. Alter course forthwith for new position F., 50° N. 15° W. Thence to resume route ordered in position 54° N. 12° W. Proceed at maximum safe speed retaining escort. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1746A/19, 2223A/19 to NELSON.)
Local Patrols.	COMMANDANT DUBOC in area 8 miles from (?Cape Trafalgar). ARCTIC RANGER, M.L.No.176, in Area Tarifa, Carneco, North Africa Coast. (F.O.C.N.A. 2229A/19 to MAORI, STORK.)

/EGRET ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

EGRET.
S.L.92.

EGRET is to fuel forthwith from R.F.A.DINGLEDALE in 34° N. 26° 30' W. and is then to rejoin convoy S.L.92. 2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to order DINGLEDALE and escorts to proceed towards Gibraltar as soon as EGRET has fuelled and A.M. 2312/14 para.3 has been complied with.
3. JONQUIL pass to DINGLEDALE.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2254A/19 to F.O.C.N.A., EGRET.)

South Atlantic.

CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN, CORRIENTES.

Following received from Las Palmas:- On 17/11 CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN berthed alongside breakwater immediately astern of CORRIENTES - both ships' bows south.
(D.D.I.C. 0935A/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

16/11.

A.2. Submarine seen by EUROPEAN (as received) evening 16/11 off Bay of Quicombo, nationality unknown. (Loanda, Sierre Leone, 1135/19 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

S.L.93.
O.S.11.

BERGAMOT and oiler RAPIDOL are to sail with ocean escort to join S.L.93 subsequently transferring O.S.11 with Freetown escort force and returning to Freetown with O.S.11. Oiler RAPIDOL will be available for fuelling escort.
LANDGUARD pass to oiler RAPIDOL.
(C. in C. S.A., 1225N/19 to LANDGUARD.)

U/B.

Sighted by A/C 1555Z/18. (C. in C. S.A. 1716N/19)
See U-Boat Campaign.

ALCA,
CLOVER,
SNAKEFLY.

ALCA is to sail for Freetown escorted by CLOVER on 22/11 and is to embark survivors for passage instead of CLOVER. My 2029/18 to CLOVER and N.O.I.C. Bathurst, Gambia, only refers. SNAKEFLY is to be sailed independently for Freetown when ready. (C. in C. S.A., 1901N/19 to ALCA.)

/THODE ...

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

THODE
FAGELUND
(sunk 17/11)

Your 2325B/17/11. Have you any further information? Presume you will modify your routeing instructions for shipping between Cape and Durban.
(C. in C. S.A. 2047N/19 to F.O.I.C.Simonstown.)

W.S.12 X.

Following received from Opnav (begins) W.S.12 X. Your 1347A/18. U.S.S. MOFFAT will escort LEONARD WOOD into Capetown. Will send E.T.A. later. 1511/19 (ends).
(D.O.D.(F) 2350A/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

PARRAMATTA.

Your 2156B/18 (N.T.in W.R.) Proceed in execution of previous orders and report progress to S.O. Force "I" when off Mersa Matruh.
(R.A. Alexandria 0005B/19 to PARRAMATTA)
Endeavour to get (corrupt group) (received as H.M.S. TONELINE) to Mersah Matruh. Fleet tug ST. ISSEY being sent. (R.A. Alexandria, 0250B/19 to PARRAMATTA) See 1254/19.

SOKOL, enemy convoy.

Capt. (S) 1's 1113B/18. R/C Shows Convoy returned to Navarin.
(Capt. S.10, 1116B/19 to SOKOL.)
Your 1825B/19 (N.T. in W.R.) Remain on patrol off Navarin if possible. Aircraft R/C at 1215B/19 confirms these merchant ships in harbour but no escort. (Capt. S.1, 2157B/19 to SOKOL.)

Battle Fleet.

Arrivals 19/11 HOBART, NEPTUNE, AJAX, KANDAHAR, VALIANT, QUEEN ELIZABETH, BARHAM, NAPIER, NIZAM, DECOY, JERVIS, KINGSTON, KIMBERLEY, HOTSPUR, GALATEA, KIPLING, JACKAL, NAIAD, URYALUS, AVON VALE, ERIDGE AMIN.
(S.O.(I) Alexandria 1133B/19.)

"Aggression".

For signification of code word "Aggression" see my 1147B/19. (?1149B/19)
(C. in C. Med, 1147B/19 to Admty. for D.N.I.)
My 1147/19. Naval Supply programme Port organisations. For CRUSADER.
(C. in C. Med., 1149B/19 to Admty. for D.N.I.)

/Enemy ...

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Ships Navarin. — 3 M/Vs anchored Navarin Bay. (A/C F. 1215/19 to Med. Aircraft.)

UNIQUE. enemy units. — (i) UNIQUE reports at 1700/8 sighted hospital ship ARNO in 032° 31' 019° 45' northbound. (ii) At 0058/12 in 032° 38' 019° 49' sighted 1 laden southbound M/V escorted by 1 destroyer approaching down longitude 019° 50' and altered course to 140° before firing enemy passed out of range. (iii) At 1136/12 in 032° 38' 019° 58' sighted 3 Condottieri (? class) cruisers single line ahead 25 knots with air escort only, steering steady course 170°, range could not be closed within 8000.
(Capt. S. 10 1226B/19 to Capt. S.1.)

U/B PARRAMATTA TONELINE. — U-Boat was reported by A/C at 2355/18 in 031° 15' N. 028° 02' E. and dived. Proceed with all despatch to hunt in that area. Suspected U-Boat may be attempting to land and embark agent(s) on coast. PARRAMATTA is towing TONELINE in this vicinity. SOUTHERN SEA and Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY are joining her (?as convenient).
(C. in C. Med., 1254/19 to FARNDALE.)

U/Bs. Black Sea. — Intelligence 1/11 given by Russian N.A. to A.N.A. Istanbul. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1308B/19 to S.O.I. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Malta Raids. Marsala mined. Naples bombed. — Night 18/19 Nov. 0035 hours 1 bomber dropped incendiaries land. 0346 hours 8 bombers approached. None crossed coast. Bombs sea and shore. No damage. Hurricanes up no illuminations or interceptions. Bad weather. 5 F.A.A. aircraft laid 5 mines Marsala area. 10 Wellingtons mark 1C nuisance raid. 2 over Naples 1833 to 2335 hours. Bombs also leaflets dropped. Hits docks and railway area. Explosions marshalling yards and fires still visible when aircraft left.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1800/19 to Air Min.)

Tripoli, Brindisi bombed. — 5 Wellingtons over Tripoli 1817-0315 hours. Bombs dropped area power house, dock area, native quarters and town. 3 Wellingtons over Brindisi 1912-0230 hours. Hits area oil tanks and fort. Fires docks and town.
1 Wellington failed find Brindisi dropped bombs Pachine. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta 1804/19.)

/THRASHER ...

MOST SECRET.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

THRASHER TRIUMPH, Yugoslav landings.

(1) Ref. your 2045B/17/10 and Capt. (S) 1 1513B/17/11. Intend THRASHER carries out both projects referred to in latter signal.
(2) In addition to effecting landing of one British one Yugoslavian officers and one technician as convenient a few miles from landing effected by TRIUMPH. This is urgently asked for to clarify situation regarding communists.
(3) Folbot party ex THRASHER will be taken.
(4) The party referred in my 1121B/5/11 will be segregated from 2 Yugoslavian parties.
C.O. THRASHER considers this a simple matter.
(V.A. Malta, 1915B/19 to C. in C. Med.)
W.R. Note: Refs. quoted herein were "Not to Admiralty".

S/Ms.

Submarines E.T.A. Malta zone minus 2 as follows: URSULA before 1800/20 or 0730/21, P.34 0730/21, URGE before 1800/21 or 0730/22. THRASHER will be exercised off Grand Harbour forenoon/20. Convoy escorted by Force "K" expected to leave p.m./20 and return 0700B/21 by south east (?channel). (Capt. S.10, 1945B/19 to S/Ms named.)

Situation Report 168.

Battle Fleet was at sea Tuesday 18/11 in support of operation "Chieftain" and was shadowed by enemy aircraft until dark while proceeding westward. Fleet turned back after dark/18 not returned to harbour.
2. Western Desert. All operations considerably hampered by bad weather which is now improving. NAIAD and EURYALUS detached from Battle Fleet night 18/19 for bombardment of Halfaya area. Bombardment reported successful despite absence of aircraft owing to weather. 415 rounds fired, several good fires started. 7th C.S. bombardment night 17/18 did not take place owing exceptionally bad weather.
3. Two German officers and 7 O.R's captured near Daba night 17/18 having landed by boat from U-Boat or aircraft. Attempt to mine railway unsuccessful. Prisoners now being examined by Navy Alex. U-Boat sighted by aircraft night 18/19 in same vicinity now being hunted by destroyers.

/4 ...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation report 168 contd.

4. TONELINE broke down night 18/19 while on passage to Tobruk with petrol now in tow of PARRAMATTA to Mersa Matruh.
5. Aircraft. See H.Q. Malta 1700/18. F.A.A. Fighters employed as fleet cover and Albacores in support of Western Desert operations with advanced H.Q.
(C. in C. Med., 1955/19 to Admty.)

Mining.

Mines have now been reported between Pylos and Sphakteria Islands.
(Capt. S.1, 1959B/19 to SOKOL.)

THUNDERBOLT.

Before proceeding to position ordered in my 2155B/18 establish patrol in vicinity of position (e) 036° 21' 020° 12' until dusk/20 then proceed position (d) given in my 2155B/18. Enemy southbound convoy left Otranto 1800B/19 expected position (e) about 1100B/20.
(Capt. S.1, 2003B/19 to THUNDERBOLT.)

P.34.

P.34 expects to arrive 0900B/20.
(Capt. S. 10, 2130B/19 to URSULA.)

TRIUMPH.

TRIUMPH sails for exercise at 1000B/20. Small convoy escorted by trawler expected Alexandria a.m./20.
(Capt. S.1, 2255B/19 to TALISMAN.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Ceylon Defences.	Instructions to General Inskip. (Assumes operational control on 22/11, of all military forces in Ceylon.) (C. in C. India, 1030/19, to W.O.)
CENTURION.	Your 1130/16. Concur undesirable to use CENTURION until Japanese have identified the units of a genuine Eastern Fleet and that thereafter she might be useful by appearing at ports where photographic r/c. is unlikely. 2. Concur in your proposal to discuss her readiness and completion of camouflage with C. in C.E.I. 3. A scheme for camouflaging her as MALAYA will shortly be completed and flown out to C. in C. E.I. 4. CENTURION carries a type 52 ERT set. This is only H/F transmitter fitted. If this is not considered adequate for your purpose it is proposed ship should be fitted locally with a more powerful commercial H/F set. (A.C.N.S(F) 1314A/19 to S.O. Force G.)

China.

PRINCE ROBERT.	Hong Kong departure PRINCE ROBERT 19/11. Programme Manila, 21/11; Honolulu, 3 - 4/12; Esquimalt 11/12. Route San Bernardino Strait to 021° 30' N., 141° 00' E., thence Great Circle to Honolulu, thence Great Circle, to Esquimalt S & A., 15 knots. (N.O.I.C. Hong Kong 0315Z/19, to Admty., etc.)
ENDEAVOUR.	Your 2048/15, Navigation crew as far as Suez can be provided. Ship will be docked 24th to confirm fitness for service. (C. in C. China, 0501Z/19, to Admty.)

/DOMINION.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. Contd.

DOMINION MONARCH. QUEEN MARY. (W.S.12.)	Your 0450/13 para. 8. DOMINION MONARCH could be docked Naval Base 5/12, if QUEEN MARY postponed till 12/12. No other possibility. (Cdr., Malaya, 0541Z/19, to D. of S.T.)
VARDAAS. (reported overdue.)	Your 1035/16. VARDAAS arrived Natuna Islands 16/11 bound Thursday Island. (Capt. O.S.,Singapore, 0757Z/19, to S.O.I., Capetown.)
D'ARTAGNAN. (French.)	Saigon departure 1400 GH/19. (C. in C. China, 1141Z/19, to C. in C.Dutch East Indies.)
Japanese 45,000-ton Battleships.	My 1616/21/8 and my 1134/4/9. Siamese N.A., in casual conversation with Assistant N.A., volunteered information that two battleships of 45,000 tons were near completion. Siamese N.A., has good Japanese connexions and is very pro-British in sympathy. (N.A. Tokyo, 1607/19, to D.N.I.) N.I.D.Comment. N.I.D. estimates that one battleship will be completed at the end of 1941 and one early in 1942.
Louis Dreyfus Ships.	Admty., 1631A/6. No objection to the interception of these ships in open sea between Hong Kong and Luzon or between Formosa and Luzon provided that interception does not take place in vicinity of Japanese warships and that every effort is made to avoid meeting the latter. (Head of M. Approved by 1st Lord, 1650A/19 to C. in C. China.)
Convoy Titles.	The following short titles are to be used for convoys which will be established in the Far East in the event of war with Japan. Melbourne to Singapore MS. Singapore to Melbourne SM. Colombo to Singapore. JS. Singapore to Colombo. SJ. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1748A/19 to C. in C's etc.)

/Command.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. Contd.

Command in Far East.

Following for Air Chief Marshal Brooke-Popham from Chiefs of Staff No. F.E.42. Chiefs of Staff are considering whether system of unified command in Far East should continue or whether it should be replaced by system of joint command by the three Commanders, as laid down in the Manual of Combined Operations (1938) (Chap.II, para. 20), and as now exists in the M.E., and Meditn. 2. Before making any decision, Chiefs of Staffs would be grateful for your considered opinion on this point and for an indication of the major implications which a change would involve.
(W.O., 1800/19, to C. in C. Far East.)

U.S. Liaison.

Appointment of R.N. liaison officer forthwith to C. in C. U.S. Asiatic Fleet is under consideration with U.S. authorities. Your remarks are requested particularly whether any officer is already holding such a post.
(V.C.N.S. 2026A/19, to C. in C. China, S.O. Force G.)

America & West Indies.

ILLUSTRIOUS FORMIDABLE.

Outline programme approved. (5 S.L., 0915A/19, to B.A.D., B.A.R.M.) See Lion Copy.

St. John's N.F.Base.

St. Johns N.F. Mission's 1501/14. (N.T. in W.D.) Navy Dept., confirms semi-officially that there is no prospect so far as can be foreseen of U.S. units relieving Newfoundland Escort Force of any escorting duty.
2. Possible developments such as assembly of some convoys in U.S. ports and extension of U-boat activities to U.S. Coastal waters are not likely to lessen the task of Newfoundland Escort Force. (?Officially) Such developments might (?conceivably) lead to use of Halifax as base for part of that force, but I can see no alternative at present but to make full provision at St. John's as proposed by St. John's Mission. Will N.S.H.Q., Ottawa please remark? N.S.H.Q. Ottawa pass to B.A.T.M.
(B.A.D., 1009A/19, to Admty.)

/W.S.12X.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies -Contd.

W.S.12 X. Departure convoy W.S. 12 X.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 1401Z/19, to Admty.).

W.S.12 X. Your 1820A/17, total numbers embarked in ships in order mentioned - 5037, 4620, 5544, 1393, 1431, 1509. Total 19534.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1417Z/19, to Admty.).

W.S. 12 X. Your 1347A/18. U.S.S. MOFFAT will escort LEONARD WOOD into Capetown. Will send E.T.A., later.
(Opnav, 1511/19 to Admty.).

O.N.34. O.N. 34 retain all ships in convoy until reaching (MM) (2) Direct ships for Halifax (6) New York and Boston (17), proceed direct to destinations passing South of Sable Island. (3) Direct ships for West Indies and Gulf Mexico proceed from (MM) to second lettered position on independent routes. (4) Direct BODEGRAVEN to omit first and second positions and change destination EMPIRE SAPPHIRE to Mobile.
(Opnav, 1602Z/19 to Comtask Unit 4.1.3.).

LIVERPOOL. Arrived Bermuda.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1703Q/19 to Admty.).

H.X.161 Taskunit 4.1.6. Comtask 2.5 in WOOLSEY, J.K. LEA, MACLISH, DUPONT, BERNADOU, designated escort H.X.161.
(Opnav, 1719/19 to Admty.).

SURCOUF. My 1206R/4. SURCOUF is delayed about four days beyond 23/11 with engine trouble.
(B.A.R.M. 1728R/19 to Admty. etc.).

/U.S.Liaison.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

U.S.Liaison. U.S. Authorities have proposed that Naval Liaison Officers from R.C.N. should be appointed forthwith to:-
(a) U.S.C. in C. Atlantic Fleet.
(b) Commander of U.S. Support Force in Newfoundland.
2. Your remarks are requested.
(V.C.N.S.2027A/19, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

U.S.N. Communications. Your 1711R/20/10. As grid signal is of a stereotyped nature desirable for security reasons that it should be passed from Washington to Ottawa by L/T. Can this be arranged?
(D.T.D. 2042A/19 to B.A.D.)

PRINCE Class. A.M.C.'s. In future the ships of the PRINCE class will be referred to as Auxiliary Cruisers not A.M.C.
B.A.D. pass P/L version to Opnav.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 2111Z/19, to R.C.N.)

GALLAGHER AMERICAN. My (?1541)~~3/6~~ (2141Z/6 intended) GALLAGHER and AMERICAN will be ready and proceed from Halifax 22/11 to Bermuda for duty unless contrary instructions are received.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 2124Z/19 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I.)

LOCHMONAR. (suspected sabotage 10/11.) LOCHMONAR sailed 1730/19, having discharged all burnt and damaged cargo. Investigations indicate outside agency responsible for causing fire and responsible authorities are investigating from this angle. Fear there is little chance of any definite result but will report if anything further is discovered.
(N.C.S.O. Panama, 2135/19 to S.O.I. Jamaica.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.11.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

Unknown Ship. — S S S S heard 3 times at 1851N/19, no position or name received. Have you heard anything? (C. in C.S.A., 1924N/19, to Takoradi, Bathurst.)

S.C.48. (attacked 17/10.) EVITA ILA. — Following for Nortraship London from Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission (begins). Press report EVITA sunk together with ILA and others telegraphed. (Consul-Gen., New York, 2250Z/19 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

Mediterranean. 2355/18. — Reported by A/C. (C. in C. Med., 1254/19, 1955/19.) See Mediterranean.

Estimated approximate positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1355A/19, 1404A/19.)

1535Z/18. — At 1535Z/18 in 4° 45' N., 3° 46' W., Hudson A/C sighted trimmed down S/M estimated course 270° speed 10 knots. S/M submerged on sighting A/C. No attack carried out. (C. in C.S.A., 1716N/19, to Admty.)

1000/18. — A reliable witness reports that on 18/11 at 10 A.M. he saw clearly from coast road 2 submarines surface and stop off Merja (45 miles East of Malaga) where-upon they were met by small steamer. Observer watched them for 20 minutes. (Malaga, 1855/19, to S.O.I., Gib.)

Submarines Attacked.

By MARIGOLD 16/11. — Narrative of sinking as example of what can be achieved with an alert ship's company and efficient type 271 R.D.F. and Asdic. (1st. S.L. 0020A/19 to C. in C.W.A., etc.) See Lion Copy.

By GURKHA, LEGION, 30/9. ? ADUA. — Their Lordships consider that the attacks by GURKHA and LEGION on 30/9/1941, achieved the destruction of an Italian U-Boat. They consider that GURKHA's attack was decisive and that LEGION's subsequent attacks contributed to the successful outcome of this action.
2. They congratulate you, your officers and ship's companies on this success. They believe, from Red Cross enquiries, that the U-Boat was ADUA. 3. They note with satisfaction that GURKHA obtained Asdic contact at 19 knots. (1st. S.L. 1255A/19 to GURKHA, LEGION.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B. & M.G.B. engagement.

M.T.B's and M.G.B's from Dover had a brief inconclusive engagement last night off Gris Nez with enemy forces which probably consisted of two or three small coasters with R boat escorts. M.G.B.9 was slightly damaged.

F.S.50 attacked by E boats 3 ships sunk.

F.S.50 composed of 59 ships escorted by WOLSEY, VERDUN, WIDGEON, KITTIWAKE and 2 trawlers and supported by VESPER, GARTH and CAMPBELL, with M.G.B.87 astern was attacked by E boats last night off the Norfolk coast; GARTH was disabled about 2130, possibly by gunfire of our own ships or by striking a wreck, and was towed to Harwich, and HAMBLEDON and QUORN were sent to reinforce the escort. Shortly before midnight S.S. ARUBA was torpedoed and sunk, and oiler WAR MEHTAR and S.S. WALDINGE were torpedoed and both sank later.
During the engagement WOLSEY possibly sank an E boat, and CAMPBELL and M.G.B. 87 very probably sank another.
At about 0300 WIDGEON was damaged in collision with VESPER.

M.G.B's engage the E boats.

At about 0520 today M.G.B. 64 (who was capable of only 18 knots speed) and M.G.B.67, patrolling on the line Smiths Knoll to Hook of Holland near the meridian of 3° E. engaged at least 4 E boats. The action lasted about 30 minutes. The M.G.B's had no casualties and no damage except shot holes.

Fighters attack E boats S 41 sunk.

At about 0600 two Fighters were sent out to attack the E boats returning to Hook of Holland and claim one E boat destroyed and one damaged. The latter (S.41) was afterwards sunk by M.G.B's 64 and 67 who were unaware that it was abandoned.

FORESIGHT
FURY
FORESTER.

The orders for the destroyers patrolling in the approaches to the Bay of Biscay were altered this evening. They were ordered to shift their patrol area 60 miles to the northward and not to leave patrol until ordered.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather curtailed operational flying today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

A/S Trawler STOKE CITY was bombed and damaged at 1300 today whilst on patrol in Skopen Fiord (Faroes).

Mining.

Operation Q.K.4.

M.L's 106 and 110 carried out operation Q.K.4 off Ostend last night.
The Air Ministry state that a reliable source reports that the port of Oslo was closed to traffic from 8/11 to 14/11 as a result of our mining.

Sheerness was reopened at 1527 A today.

Mediterranean.

Air Operations.

17 Wellingtons, all of which returned, operated from Malta last night over Messina, Benghazi, Tripoli, Naples and Brindisi. At Brindisi, harbour oil tanks were hit, and fires were visible 100 miles away.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

S/M allocations for Mediterranean.

(1) Intend the following submarines should join the flotillas indicated leaving U.K. on the approx. dates given.

10th Flotilla	P.36	18/12	1st Flotilla	TURBULENT	19/1
	P.37	22/1		TEMPEST	24/1
	P.38	3/1			
	P.39	30/1			

(2) In anticipation of approval of revised refitting programme now in preparation, C. in C. Med. is requested to sail the following submarines to U.K. URSULA, UTMOST, UPRIGHT, TRIUMPH, OTUS. (F.O.S. 1312A/20).

Movements.

NELSON.

My 1729A/17.
(i) Amend R/V with NELSON to (X) 055° N. 010° W. at 1200A/21.
(ii) NELSON routed through 054° N. 012° W. 056° N. 008° W. (C. in C. W.A. 0032A/20).
My 1740A/19. Cancel para. one, 2 and 7. NORMAN with ICARUS proceed passing Switha at 1500 today to R/V with NELSON escorted by ZULU, SIKH and GURKHA in position X 055° N. 010° W. at 1200A/21.
H.M.S. NELSON routed as follows.
(R.A.D. H.F. 0904A/20 to NORMAN, ICARUS).
Sailed D.8 in FAULKNOR for exercises. E.T.A. Londonderry 2100A/20. Subsequently proceeding to comply with C. in C. W.A. 0032A/20.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1434A/20).
C. in C. W.A. 0032A/20. It would appear that NELSON will arrive off May Island about midnight 22/23. As this would place her in vicinity of Rattray Head during period when air attacks are more probable, and in order to allow sweeping to be carried out in Firth of Forth, it is requested that NELSON be ordered to adjust her speed or that ship be held at Scapa so as to arrive at May Island at 0900/23. (C. in C. Rosyth 1729/20).
Sailed NORMAN and ICARUS to R/V with NELSON in position X as ordered in C. in C. W.A. 0032A/20.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1759A/20 to NELSON).

/HAMBLEDON.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

HAMBLEDON.
QUORN.

Part company with F.S. No. 50 at 0900 and proceed Humber by Q.Z.S. 287. Adjusting speed to arrive before dark. (C. in C. Nore 0459/20 to HAMBLEDON, QUORN).

P.38.

(1) From 049° N. 006° W. proceed through (a) 050° N. 002° W. (b) 050° 27' N. 000° 24' W. to R/V in 050° 31' N.000° 41' W. at 0800A/22.
(2) S.B.R. will be in force in (a) area 53 from 2100/20 to 1100/22. (B) Area 41 from 0600/21 to 1100/22. (S.5. 0901A/20 to P.38) (S.5. 0902A/20)

P.36.

Intend to sail P.36 passing Needles at 1630/21 for A/S Exercise off Dartmouth on 22/11 and 23/11 via Q.Z.S. 284 thence diving by day through
(a) 050° 31' N. 002° 01' W.
(b) 050° 19' N. 002° 11' W.
(c) 130° Start Point 14 miles to R/V with 2 M.Ls. 110° Start Point 6 miles at 0900A/22.
P.36 will remain east of position (c) until daylight. (Capt. S.5. 0915A/20 and 1340A/20).

TRIDENT.

Adjust route to your patrol position to pass to Westward of Q.Z.X. 471 which should not be approached within 25 miles unless in pursuit of enemy. (F.O.S. 1008A/20 to TRIDENT.)

EREBUS.

Sheerness Departure EREBUS escorted by MEYNELL and WALPOLE as far as Kinnaird Head at 0835. S. of A. 10 knots. E.T.A. Londonderry 0800/24. (C. in C. Nore 1028A/20).

OTWAY.

OTWAY is carrying out diving trials with KINGFISHER and SPANIEL standing by her in vicinity of 057° 20' N. 011° 30' W. (C. in C. W.A. 1115A/20 to BEVERLEY).

MANXMAN.
WELSHMAN.

Adty. 1945A/19. Propose MANXMAN and WELSHMAN return port Z.A. forthwith. In view of my 1248A/24/10. (?I) assumed (?minelayers) had been sent to (?Scapa) to meet Adty. requirements. If German ships (?move) up Norwegian coast before breaking out request Adty. operate these ships if minelaying appears possible.
(C. in C. H.F. 1119Z/20).

/RENOWN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

RENOWN. — RENOWN is to sail in accordance with RENOWN's 6189/061 of 3/11 but not before 1600/21 and is to arrive Scapa at 0900/22. RENOWN is to take ARROW, WALLACE, VIMIERA under his orders. When destroyers are detached on entering harbour ARROW is to proceed to Greenock, WALLACE and VIMIERA are to return to Rosyth. Fighter protection will be arranged. (C. in C. Rosyth 1141/20 to RENOWN).

Floating Crane. — C. in C. Portsmouth's 1603/18. Trawler will not be relieved until tomorrow. (C. in C. Plymouth 1252/20 to BERKELEY).
JULIET and CORIOLANUS are to pass the gate ahead of Sweepers at 0730/21 and R/V with BERKELEY escorting floating crane. Position will be signalled.
BERKELEY is to remain as A/A escort leaving so as to arrive Plymouth 1800/22. Trawlers on relief by ROCHESTER and M.L. in the vicinity of St. Govans light return to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1322/20).
Floating crane has had to proceed into Torbay for shelter. Tow has only made good about 3 knots. BERKELEY reports "after consulting tugs, who agree, consider passage of crane extremely hazardous except under perfect weather conditions. Two more tugs required". Intend crane should proceed Dartmouth and request more tugs be provided. (C. in C. Plymouth 1756/20). Proceed with tow to Dartmouth tomorrow Friday weather permitting. On arrival trawlers to return to Portsmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1934/20 to BERKELEY).

RAMILLIES. — My 1034A/19; Sailed RAMILLIES escorted by VANQUISHER and WITCH. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1414A/20).

RORQUAL. — My 1704A/18. RORQUAL's movement is 24 hours late. (Capt. S.3. 1445A/20 to P.38).
Proceed submerged by day towards position 245° RR 213 miles. S.B.R. arranged in whole of areas 52, 54 and 56 until further notice. (F.O.S. 2254A/20 to RORQUAL).

SUFFOLK. — Arrived SUFFOLK 0730. (A.C.I.C. 1823N/20).

MOST SECRET.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Convoy F.S. 50. WAR MEHTAR (British Tanker, 5502 Tons) sunk. WALDINGE (British, 2462 Tons) sunk. ARUBA (British 1159 Tons) sunk. WIDGEON (Corvette) damaged.

WAR MEHTAR and one unknown ship torpedoed near 55.A. buoy. WAR MEHTAR being towed by tug SAN FABIAN. Other ship apparently abandoned. (VERDUN 0144/20).
VERDUN 0144/20. Tug DIVERSION and two M.L's leaving Yarmouth to assist. (C. in C. Nore 0255A/20).
My 0144. WALDINGE sunk in 052° 56' N. 002° 01' 30" E. Tug escorted by 2 M.L's ordered Yarmouth. M.L. No. 214 with survivors ordered to Lowestoft. VERDUN's Medical Officer and sick berth attendant in SUPERMAN. My P.C.S. are 56 buoy, 160°, 20 knots. Request instructions. (VERDUN 0753A/20).
Departure at 0800A/20 Tug RICHARD LEE BARBER to assist WALDINGE. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0825A/20).
My 0753. Tug DIVERSION now ordered to assist SUPERMAN towing WAR MEHTAR to Yarmouth. P.C.S. 180° 54.D. Buoy, 2 miles 4 knots. Am remaining with her as she is unescorted. (VERDUN 0911A/20).
My 0911. WAR MEHTAR sunk in about 052° 35' 45" N. 002° 09' 20" E. Tug escorted by M.L. returning to Yarmouth. Am rejoining convoy. (VERDUN 1040A/20).
Your 0753. Proceed to rejoin convoy. Tug is to be ordered to Yarmouth. (C. in C. Nore 0927A/20 to VERDUN).
Return to Sheerness with F.S.No. 50. (C. in C. Nore 0935A/20 to CAMPBELL).
My 0116 and VERDUN 0144 and 0753 ARUBA also sunk. During engagement one salvo of 4 inch H.E. fired by WOLSEY at 2nd of 3 E-boats in approx. 052° 47' N. 002° 20' E. produced considerable explosion with red flames and black smoke. Consider E-boat may have been sunk. Request search in this vicinity. (WOLSEY 0945A/20)
Have received on board at 0830 from S.S. (? LIDKYLE) (?16) non injured. Survivors from ARUBA torpedoed and sunk at 2345 in 052° 51' N. 002° 07' 30" E. Survivors will be landed at Harwich. One missing. (WIDGEON 1017A/20).
Your 1040. Cancel previous orders. Proceed to overtake your convoy. (C. in C. Nore 1215 A/20 to VERDUN)
Arrival at 1115A/20 M/L's 214 and 230 M/L 214 with Captain 2nd Mate and twelve other survivors of WALDINGE, all uninjured. M/L 230 with 4th Engineer and 14 other survivors of WAR MEHTAR all uninjured. 4 D.E.M.S. ratings on WALDINGE, 3 D.E.M.S. ratings on WAR MEHTAR. Remainder of crews thought to be on board GOGGIELAND and Tug SUPERMAN. Army Gunner of S.S. WALDINGE may be missing. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1320A/20).

/Following.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Convoy F.S.50. WAR MEHTAR (British Tanker, 5502 Tons) sunk. WALDINGE (British, 2462 Tons) sunk. ARUBA (British, 1159 Tons) sunk. WIDGEON (Corvette) damaged. - Contd.

Following is preliminary report on last night's E-boat operations.
2. No F.N. Convoy, F.S.50 of 59 ships somewhat spread out and escorted by WOLSEY, VERDUN, WIDGEON, KITTIWAKE and two trawlers was supported by VESPER, GARTH and CAMPBELL, with M.G.B. 87 astern HAMBLEDON and QUORN joined convoy about 0330/20.
3. E-boats active between 5 buoy and SHERINGHAM from 2115/19 until about 0430/20. Probably four groups present.
4. An action took place about 2130 near 57 buoy. Now considered doubtful if E-boats were actually present although known to be in vicinity. GARTH was disabled possibly by friendly gunfire. This will be investigated.
5. Van of convoy was attacked between 55A and 56 buoys at 2330 by two groups of E-boats. Steamship ARUBA sunk. Tanker WAR MEHTAR and Steamship WALDINGE also hit by torpedoes. These ships sank at 1040/20 and 0745/20 respectively. E-boats engaged by WOLSEY, VESPER, CAMPBELL and M.G.B. 87. WOLSEY possibly sank one - CAMPBELL and M.G.B. 87 very probably sank another.
6. Other groups of E-boats probably two in number remained in Cromer area until about 0415/20 but failed to make contact.
7. At about 0300/20, WIDGEON was damaged in collision with VESPER.
8. At about 0520/20, M.G.Bs. 64 and 67 patrolling line Smiths Knoll to Hook of Holland near Meridian 3 degrees east engaged about 6 E-boats believed from Cromer area at close range. One thought to be hard hit. On return over same water one E-boat found abandoned. This boat sank in spite of efforts to keep it afloat.
9. At about 0600/20. A.O.C. 12 fighter group was requested to send out fighters to attack E-boats returning to Hook of Holland. This attack was carried out in spite of unfavourable weather. Fighters claim one E-boat destroyed and one damaged.
10. From above E-boat casualties are considered to be two certainly sunk, two others probably sunk and others damaged.
(C. in C. Nore 2208A/20).

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.-Contd.

Operation Q.N.

Prepare to carry out Operation Q.N.
(C. in C. Nore 0930A/20 to BEEHIVE)
Departure M.T.B's 34, 30 on operation Q.N.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1650A/20).

Engagements off Gris Nez and West Hinder M.G.B.9 damaged.

On a report by R.D.F. at 2015/19 that a number of vessels had left Boulogne Northeastwards, M.T.B's 219, 218 and 48 supported by M.G.B's 10, 9 and 41 were sent to investigate. Contact was first made at 2150 about four miles east of Gris Nez. In low visibility it was difficult to ascertain composition of enemy force, but it probably consisted of two or three coaster type vessels of less than 1000 tons and an unknown number of R boat escorts. M.T.B's 219 and 218 each fired two torpedoes at Coasters without success. M.T.B. 48 did not locate a torpedo target. M.G.B's had brief inconclusive engagements. Being uncertain of composition of enemy and as attacks were reported as unsuccessful, I despatched M.T.B's 44 and 47 at 2330 as reinforcements. Meanwhile, enemy were shadowed by M.T.B's and M.G.B's. M.T.B. 44 made contact at 0155 near the West Hinder but in decreased visibility was unable to make an attack, and soon afterwards all touch was lost.
Boats returned independently the last arriving at 0855.There was considerable but inaccurate enemy fire during contacts M.T.B. 48 had one slight casualty and M.G.B. 9 was slightly damaged.
(V.A. Dover 1201A/20).

S/M Patrols.

Patrol positions are to be amended as follows TUNA 061° 02' N. 004° 00' E. RUBIS 061° 30' N. 003° 50' E. TRIDENT 062° 00' N. 004° 13' E.
(F.O.S. 1313A/20).

Patrol by FORESIGHT. FUKY. FORESTER.

A.M. 1617/14 para. 2. Alter patrol area to read "between the meridians of 23° W. and 25° W. and the latitudes of 40° N. and 43° N."
2. Establish patrol as soon as practicable.
(D.O.D. F. 1331A/20 to FORESIGHT).
A.M. 1617A/14. Para. one. The latter of the two alternatives is the more likely disguised as a neutral. 2. Para. 3. Object destruction. 3. Para. 5. Do not leave patrol till ordered.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1938A/20 to FORESIGHT).
A.M. 1331A/20. Patrol area is to be shifted 60 miles to the Northward. (A.C.N.S. F. 2225A/20 to FORESIGHT).

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

Operation Q.K.4.

My 1028A/19. M.L's 106 and 110 carried out operation Q.K. (4) off Ostend R.B. Buoy. M.L. 106 reports sighting firing at 0154/20 in approximate position 51° 28' N. 02° 21' E. On receipt of information of the movements of an enemy convoy off Calais from V.A. Dover, M.T.B's 18 and 100, then on patrol between Thornton Ridge and Flushing, were ordered to patrol in 51° 27' N. 03° 04' E. Convoy was not sighted by M.T.B's. (C. in C. Nore 1534A/20).

SEALION Patrol. VESCO (Norwegian Tanker, 331 Tons) set on fire on 18/11.

SEALION arrived from patrol Svaerholthavet. At 11270/18 attacked unescorted eastbound tanker position 71° 0' 30" N. 27° 01' 30" E. Fired 3 torpedoes range 800 yards missed. Engaged by gun fire, and ship set on fire and still burning fiercely after 2 hours. Crew of 10 abandoned ship in ship's boat. Master and second Engineer, latter seriously injured by gun fire, taken on board. Remainder proceeded in ship's boat to Honningsvaag. Weather calm.
(3) Vessel was VESCO proceeding to Kirkenes from Narvik with total of 304 tons benzine and oil fuel.
(4) SEALION returned to base in view of injury to officer and with valuable information given by Captain of VESCO. Admiralty pass to F.O.S. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1541C/20).

M.G.B. engagement off Smiths Knoll. One E-boat sunk.

My 2208A/20. Para 8. Following is preliminary report on action fought by M.G.B's 64 and 67.
2. M.G.B's 63, 64 and 67 left Harwich about 2000/19 to patrol off Hook of Holland. M.G.B. 63 stopped at Cork L.V. with water in petrol. M.G.B. 64 delayed by complete failure of centre engine which reduced maximum speed to 18 knots for rest of night. 64 and 67 proceeded to line Smiths Knoll to Hook of Holland at meridian 3° East at 0230/20 as unable to reach patrol ordered.
3. At 0445/20 heard E-Boats approaching. At about 0520/20 engaged at least four E-Boats closing one boat within 200 yards. Action lasted about 30 minutes enemy firing high and wildly. Several shot holes in M.G.B. 64 and a few in 67. One E-Boat believed hard hit. During search after action E-Boat S.41 found stopped with other boats which immediately made off. Before it was realised S.41 was abandoned boat was depth charged. Subsequent efforts to keep her afloat failed (.....). Scuttling charges were found prepared but not fired. Torpedoes had not been fired. Six E-boats thought to have been in this group. No casualties in M.G.B's.
4. It is considered that this gallant action against superior numbers fought with the disability of reduced speed reflects the highest credit on the Officers and ships Companies of these M.G.B's. (C. in C. Nore 2210A/20).

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

2 Whitley aircraft leave Wick at 1200/20 to carry out A/S patrol of area 4 miles either side of line 059° 38' N. 001° 30' W. and 60° N. 5° W. (C. in C. Rosyth1110/20 and 1330/20).
Request Fighter Patrol referred to in your 1809A/9 may include Skopen Fiord also. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1540A/20 to A.C.O.S.)
An A/S sweep will be carried out by 3 Whitley A/C in following area, tomorrow weather permitting.
1. Malin Head to 57° 48' N. 10° 48' W. to 58° 46' N. 14° 20' W. and reciprocal.
2. Inishtrahull to 58° N. 10° 30' W. to 58° 58' N 14° W. and reciprocal.
3. 55° 41' N. 06° 40' W. to 58° 14' N. 10° 12' W. to 59° 08' N. 13° 40' W. and reciprocal.
A/C to be at N. extremity at 1200A/21.
(C. in C. W.A. 2356A/20).

T.B.R. on 22/11.

Request T.B.R. in Area 53 from 0800 - 1700/22nd. (C. in C. Plymouth 1422/20).

Escort for NELSON.

Weather permitting expect Hudson A/S and Blenheim A/A escort from daylight to-morrow. (C. in C. W.A. 1524A/20 to NELSON).

A/C in ARGUS. Re-forming 808 to 816 and 825 Squadrons.

807 and 812 Squadrons are now operating in ARGUS with 8 Fulmars 2 Sea Hurricanes and 9 Swordfish. Only 4 Fulmars and 8 Swordfish are at present embarked.
Survivors from ARK ROYAL are due at Rosyth a.m./23 in NELSON. Request you will arrange accommodation for F.A.A. personnel. It is possible but not probable that some F.A.A. personnel will be landed from destroyers at Londonderry p.m./21 Further signal will be made regarding reforming 808 - 816 and 825 Squadrons on completion of leave. (D.N.A.D. 1641A/20 to R.A.N.A.S.)

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C off Kinsale.

Master of Trawler FRANK arrived Swansea P.M./19 reports that on 14th 15th 16th Nov. at about 0900 and again at 1400 hours he sighted flights of 2 to 4 enemy aircraft flying at 6 feet above sea level in position approx. 10 miles South of Kinsale. Aircraft approached from a North Easterly direction and were twin engined Bombers in each case. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1220A/20)

/STOKE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.-Contd.

STOKE CITY (A/S Trawler) damaged.

At 1300 today STOKE CITY on patrol in Skopen Fiord was bombed and damaged. STOKE CITY has reached Midvaag and RISOR is proceeding to her assistance. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1540/A/20).

Murmansk.

Russians state that German aircraft M.E.109 have been seen in Murmansk Area with British Markings. (Ad. Miles 1604D/17).

Mining.

Operation N.L. 22.

My 1504A/19 postponed owing to enemy movement. (V.A. Dover 0105A/20).

Thames Estuary.

One Magnetic Mine detonated at 1630/18 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1435/20).
4 S.A. mines detonated on 16/11 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1814/20).
In amplification of my 1723/19. Reports from ships now to hand show that enemy aircraft appear to have arrived in Echelon formation of about 4 aircraft. Course being from N. Foreland to N.E. Shingles Light Buoy where formations broke up. Heights of planes estimated as between 1000 and 3000 ft. Only 4 sightings of planes, and those only momentary, reported from about 25 ships out. Fire was opened in all sightings and in some other cases on sound. Some observers suggest conditions for sighting planes and splashes very much improved when light from distant searchlight beams relieved intense darkness - but it was thought possibly without corresponding increase of facilities to the aircraft. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1907/20).

Sheerness.

Cancel my 0041/19. Port of Sheerness now open. (Cdre. Sheerness 1527A/20).

Bristol Channel.

Mine detonated by Sweeper at 1123A/20 in 240° 2.65 miles Flatholm Light. Details. (Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1535A/20).

Rosyth Command.

From 11th to 18th Nov. the following stranded and drifting mines were dealt with in this command. Details. (C. in C. Rosyth 1541/20).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Great Belt. German swept channel. — Reported alteration (details) B.2. (N.A.Stockholm 1614/20).

Navigational.

Information for TRIDENT. — Your 2209A/19. Following is a repetition of Q.Z.X. 471. Area dangerous due to mines is enclosed within a circle of radius five miles about position 62° 32' N. 04° E. (F.O.S. 0211A/20 to TRIDENT).

Uncharted Rocks. — Chart No. 2382. Rocks with least depth of eleven feet in position 700 feet 310° from red beacon Lat 56° 06' 25" N. Long (?05) 14' 9" W. cover area twenty feet radius from this position. (GULNARE 1041A/20).

Condition of Swept Channel Buoys. — GLEANER's 1030/16 and 0919/20 F.O.I.C. Aberdeen's 1756/19 and 1003/20, WALLACE 1145/20 being passed for information. (C. in C. Rosyth 1145/20).

B.3. Buoy. — My 1157A/12. Visibility of B.3. Buoy is still reported as being only about 3 cables. In view of the proximity of The Mouse and North Knob sands request visibility of the light on this Buoy may be increased to 2½ miles instead of 1½ miles as originally asked for in my 2311B/24/6. (C. in C. Nore 2223A/20).

Casualties and Defects.

GARTH. — Departure at 0002 tug KROOMAN and two M.G.B's as escorts to assist GARTH S.E. of 56 Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0030A/20).
GARTH now in tow of KINGSTON OLIVINE. M.L. 194 in company. Pos. 55A Buoy. (GARTH 0122A/20).
Proceed forthwith to meet GARTH now in vicinity of 54.E. buoy and escort her to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore 0937A/20 to SOUTHDOWN).
Departure Tug KENIA to assist GARTH. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1240/20).
Arrivals GARTH being towed by tugs KENIA and KROOMAN, also SOUTHDOWN. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1930A/20).

/CAVEROCK.....

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

CAVEROCK (Grounded 29/10).	CAVEROCK refloated yesterday afternoon. Now Hartlepool Harbour. (Smith 0914/20).
AIGLON.	My 1757A/18. AIGLON returned with defect. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0939A/20).
M.L. 285.	Your 1625/18. M/L 285 not arrived. Last seen P.M./19. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1322/20).
PITWINES sunk.	Steam ship PITWINES sunk approx. 2 cables S.E. 19.D. buoy at 2125/19 November after collision with S.S. GATESHEAD. (N.O.I.C. Middlesbrough 1505/20).
RUGELEY.	Request you sail ST. OLAVES TO assist RUGELEY aground in Ardneil Bay between Ardrossan and Farland Point. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1553A/20 to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown). Proceed forthwith to assist RUGELEY. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1557A/20). Sailed ST. OLAVES in accordance with my 1557A/20. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1615/20).
HAMBLEDON.	HAMBLEDON was in collision with S.S. KOOLGA at 0230/20. No damage was sustained by HAMBLEDON with the exception of ships motor boat which was crushed. (HAMBLEDON 1800A/20).
OCANA.	OCANA slightly damaged by collision with CULEBRA (Pan), latter undamaged. OCANA cannot sail overseas without repairs which cannot be effected here. A.M.S.R.D. Representative reports she can be taken in hand Clyde. Request permission to sail her accordingly proceeding independently. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1806A/20).
ROSS.	ROSS delayed Aberdeen with engine defect. Require 48 hours to make good. Sailing P.M. Saturday 22nd. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2056/20).
?	54 to 51. Stokehold engine room and number four flooded, settling slowly ends. (Valentia Radio 2147/20).

/WIDGEON.....

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

WIDGEON. (Corvette) — Damaged at about 0300/20 in collision with VESPER. (C. in C. Nore 2208A/20).

EMPIRE MOULDER. — EMPIRE MOULDER seriously damaged in collision unable to steam. VOLUNTEER endeavouring to tow. HIBISCUS standing by. (VANOC 2320Z/20).

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. Convoys. Procedure to reduce signalling. — Admiralty 1859A/30/8 has been passed to A.C.I.C. and A.C.O.S. (D.T.D. 0123A/20).

N.A. Trade Convoy Escorts. Communications. — The instructions in Para. 1 of A.M.1150A/13/9 are to be strictly followed. They apply on all occasions. (1st S.L. 0148A/20).

W.S.14. — My 0719/14. Z.9. will not now be included in W.S.14. (D.S.T. 0820A/20).
My 0556/20/9. For "BERGENSFJORD" read "SOBIESKI". BERGENSFJORD is now being included in W.S.14. SOBIESKI will be available after completion of disembarkation in T.C.15. (D. of S.T. 0400A/20).

D.S.17. — BANFORA will be used for D.S.17. sailing Clyde 26/11. (D.S.T. 0401A/20).
LEINSTER will sail for Iceland in D.S.17 and will remain there pending further instructions.
2. On outward voyage in D.S.17 no troops will be embarked but 120 tons D.W. cargo will be loaded. (D.S.T. 0402A/20).
BANFORA and LEINSTER are allocated for convoy D.S.17 leaving Clyde 26/11.
2. LEINSTER will remain in Iceland (C) for local service.
3. S.S. LOCHNAGAR will return to U.K. in S.D.17. (D.O.D. H. 1940A/20).

S.D.16. — Arrived S.D.16 escorted by CASTLETON. CASTLETON damaged. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1248A/20).

/S.L.93.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

S.L.93.
O.S.12.

In order to exchange groups LONDONDERRY and GORLESTON will be ordered to exchange convoys in mid ocean, LONDONDERRY returning to U.K. with S.L.93 GORLESTON to Bathurst with O.S.12.
(ii) C. in C. S.A. is requested to arrange quick boiler cleaning of GORLESTON on return to Bathurst. (C. in C. W.A. 1740A/20).

F.S.50.

F.S.50 arrived except ARUBA and WALDINGE both reported sunk. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1831A/20).

T.C.16.

A.M. 1917A/18. Owing to inward escorts not being available it will not now be possible to sail T.C.16 before 14/12.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1907A/20 to B.A.D. Washington).

T.C.15.

Please inform War Office and Dominions Office that convoy T.C.15 is delayed 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2130A/20).

EULIMA in P.Q.4.

Your 1327A/18. AS PDQ 5 was not expected to sail until 25th it would entail her lying here for nine days. It was presumed that she was required to arrive Archangel.without any unnecessary delay. (A.C.I.C. 2303N/18 to Admty.)

Detachment of Convoy Escorts.

Attention is called to W.A.S.O. 204 paragraph 3 and W.A. general order 071. It is evident from reports that escorts are still being detached whenever it is necessary to transmit a message by W/T.
Provided high frequency is employed the risk to an ocean convoy of being fixed by shore D/F is not appreciably reduced by detaching a ship up to 40 miles but the protection of the convoy is immediately prejudiced by temporary loss of an escort. (C. in C. W.A. 2308A/20).

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

20.11.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

EGRET, FISHGUARD, BANFF. (S.L.92).

As EGRET fuelled from Oiler RAPIDOL, FISHGUARD detached to comply with your 2254A/19. Expect to meet DINGLEDALE about noon/20. Advisable for BANFF to fuel also if this can be arranged. (Weather report). (EGRET, 0305A/20 to Admty). Your 0305A/20. BANFF should fuel at Ponta Delgada.
2. Considered probable that DINGLEDALE and escorts left 35° 37' N., 27° W., at 2135A/19 for 34° N., 30° W.
3. Should FISHGUARD fail to meet DINGLEDALE today 20/11 she is to fuel at Ponta Delgada and rejoin convoy.
4. A.M.2254A/19 para 2. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to recall DINGLEDALE and escorts on 21/11.
5. JONQUIL pass to DINGLEDALE.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1400A/20 to F.O.C.N.A. etc).
W.R. Note. Above passed to CLYDE with T.O.O. 1430A/20 and N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada N.A. Lisbon with T.O.O. 1436A/20.
Admty 1400A/20. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 0800 G.M.T. Request 150 tons fuel oil, 30 tons fresh water. (BANFF, 1700Z/20 to Admty).

DEPTFORD. etc.

My 1630A/16. Ships have now returned to Harbour. (F.O.C.N.A., 0310A/20 to Admty).

Proposed Salvage Tug, Azores.

Your 1629A/17. Real obstacle is feared German protest on grounds that salvage tug, although commercial vessel, acted as patrol vessel and her use of Portuguese ports as base is contrary to international law. Portuguese know this untrue but fear reprisals against their shipping. (N.A. Lisbon, 1041/20 to Admty).

FORESTER.

Left Ponta Delgada 1330 G.M.T./20 to rejoin FORESIGHT, FURY. (N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1140/20 to S.O.(I) Gib).

Enemy Shipping Las Palmas.

My 1130/18. Enemy ships now berthed alongside breakwater in following order commencing 500 metres from Southward Point:- CORRIENTES, CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMAN, CHERCA, KERSTEN MILES, ORATA, TROVATORE. Three Danish ships now at Mooring Buoy inner harbour. (Las Palmas, 1500/20 to Admty).

/MARSDALE....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

MARSDALE, ILE DE NORMOUTIER, ILE D'OUESSANT. — Admiralty 2220A/20 (N.T. in W.D.) MARSDALE in 034° 12' N., 038° 00' W., at 2300A. Submit French ship could be intercepted in D.Z.1. Weather report. (MARSDALE, 2300A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.) MARSDALE to shift patrol to D.Z.1.(F.O.C.N.A., 0602A/21)

South Atlantic.

C.M.23. — Your 1601/18. Request composition of C.M.23 be reported. (D.S.T., 0321A/20 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown) Reply:, 1151B/21.

WISHART, VIDETTE. — Departure WISHART, VIDETTE, in accordance with my 1152A/19. (F.O.C.N.A., 0408A/20 to Admty).

VARDAAS. — Overdue shipping. Cancel my 1035/18 VARDAAS due Singapore, not East London. -(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0925B/20 to Admty. etc).

CARNARVON CASTLE. — Your 1657/11. C.O. CARNARVON CASTLE reports dimensions of ship are, length O.A., 686', beam 73', deep draught 27' 8", light draught, 24' 3". (S.N.O. Simonstown, 1038B/20 to Admty).

U-boat Report Quicombo. — See Consul General Loanda's 06217/18/11 to F.O. and his 1135/19/11 to S.O.(I) Freetown being passed to you. I do not attach much credence to these reports but have requested S.L.O., F.N.F.L. to send PRESIDENT HOUDUCE to reconnoitre Quicombo Bay. Flying boat reconnoitred coast as far as Santa Marib on 16/11 and saw nothing. (C. in C. S.A., 1231N/20 to Admty).

WACOSTA. — Have you any news of American WACOSTA due Buenos Aires 12/11 from Trinidad? (D.T.D., 1553A/20 to S.O.(I) Montevideo). Your 1900/20 (?1553/20 intended) WACOSTA considered due Buenos Aires today 20th but has not yet arrived. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2123Z/20 to Admty).

/THODE.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

THODE FAGELUND (sunk 17/11) My 2325/17. N.L.O's East London and Port Elizabeth and AUSTRALIA and DERBYSHIRE have each independently interrogated survivors at their ports.
2. Evidence conflicting but opinion tends towards ship having been torpedoed.
3. Loss of ship caused by explosion in or under No. 5 hold.
4. Cargo Jute, Tea, and Pig Iron.
5. British W/T Operator of opinion explosion may have been internal. My personal opinion is the same (reasons).
6. I have communicated my opinion to Officers responsible for interrogation but this seems to have somewhat stiffened their opinion in Para.2. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1923/20 to C. in C. S.A.)

Diversion of Shipping. Your 2047/19.
Large diversion of routeing between Cape and Durban is not possible without sending ships outside range of Anson Patrols which is my only cover, but I am doing what I can.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1931B/20 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Movements. My 0014B/20 (N.T. in W.D.) Cancel NAPIER, JACKAL, KIPLING. AVONVALE and HEYTHROP are to proceed with C.S.7 at 1145/20. FARNDALE and ERIDGE now carrying out A/S sweeps in Ras Al (El) (?Kenayis) areas are to join 7 C.S. as ordered by C.S.7. (C. in C. Med., 0653B/20 to C.S.7).

PARRAMATTA. What is your position? Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY arrived Mersa Matruh.
(S.O. Force I., 0744B/20 to PARRAMATTA).

MAURETANIA. Your 2332A/16. MAURETANIA, expected to sail ex Suez 2/12. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 0935B/20 to D. of S.T.)

/S/M....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

S/M 24. Netherlands S/M 24 ready to leave Gibraltar about 30th for patrol in Tyrrhenean Sea. Request information regarding suitable area. (Capt. S.8., 1004A/20 to S.10).

Enemy Units, Navarin, etc. P.C. and S. of enemy 2 destroyers 2 M/Vs, 6000 tons, 36° 42' N., 20° 32' E., 200° 8. (A/C H., 1035/20 to Hal Far).
Position of enemy Navarin harbour, 1 destroyer 2 (?Minesweepers). (A/C E., 1145/20 to 201 Group H.Q.)
Aerial photographs 19th show 2 merchant ships 1 destroyer anchored in line 010° from Pylos Breakwater. This is confirmed by R/C at 1215/20. (Capt. S.1., 1759B/20 to SOKOL)
Aircraft R/C for 20th, one destroyer and 2 merchant ships Navarin.
(Capt. S.10., 1821B/20 to SOKOL).
If enemy convoy is seen leaving harbour endeavour to report to me as quickly as possible.
(Capt. S.1., 1941B/20 to SOKOL).

Gibraltar Intelligence Area. Your 1900A/15. Concur in extension of Gibraltar Intelligence area but consider Malta should retain area which can be reconnoitred by Aircraft from Malta and about which information can be obtained from Prisoners captured at Malta. Propose that Division should be French-Italian Frontier and Tunisian-Algerian Frontier with Corsica and Sardinia remaining in Malta area.
(C. in C. Med., 1204B/20 to Admty).

Fleet Operations "Landmark" "Aggression". Intend following operations M.E.7.
(A) Fleet will move in support of operation "Landmark" wherein a dummy convoy escorted by Force K will sail Malta P.M./21 to southward returning to Malta after dark. Object is to (corrupt group) enemy force by impression of intended landing in Tripoli area A.M./22.
(B) 1st Battle Squadron 15th Cruiser Squadron and 11 fleet destroyers are to sail at 0800/21 as ordered by C. in C.
(C) Intend proceeding through approx. position,

(A)....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Fleet Operations "Landmark" "Agression".

(A) 031° 45' 029° 05' at 1200/21 thence approx. position (B) 032° 15' 027° 25' at 1800/21 turn eastwards after dark to enter harbour before daylight /22 unless otherwise ordered.
(D) 7th Cruiser Squadron is to join me A.M./21 on completion of bombarding operation night 20/21 "Hunt" class destroyers will then be detached from 7th Cruiser Squadron to Alexandria for operation "Aggression".
(E) A.O.C. 201 Naval Co-operation Group is requested to arrange continuous Fighter patrol over fleet from 1100 until dark on 21st, and to signal intended fighter programme to fleet.
(F) Fighter protection codeword and R/T call sign "Novel". Fighter directing ship VALIANT, wireless call sign "Gallery" Q frequency Fulmar R/T 6000 W/T 4410, Martlets 4442.75 kc/s per sec.
(G) N.O.I.C. Alexandria is requested to adjust minesweeping programme accordingly.
(C. in C. Med., 1234B/20 to 1 B.S., 7 C.S. 15 C.S., etc).

Mining Marsala.

H.Q., R.A.F., Malta's I 250 dated 19/11. Position of mines laid by No. 828 Squadron (F.A.A.) night of 18/19. Bearing and distance in cables from Marsala Point, 070°-6, 080° - 8 105° - 10, 110° - 4, 110° - 2.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1328B/20 to C. in C. Med).

Wellington for torpedo dropping.

Navy has suggested using Wellingtons for torpedo dropping. Has this been considered or attempted in U.K.? Request results of any trials and technical details of conversion.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1544/20 to M.A.P.)
Your R.744 20/11. Use of Wellingtons for torpedo dropping has not been considered or attempted in U.K. (M.A.P., No. T.O.O./22).

DERNA. (Italian).

Departure 20th Tarragona.
(Barcelona, 1800/20).

/Malta....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Raid. Messina, Benghazi, Tripoli, Naples, Brindisi, bombed.

Night 19/20. 4 alarms, total 8 bombers crossed coast. Bombs land sea; no damage. 17 Wellingtons operated. 1 Mark 1C over Messina 1720 to 2010 hours, bursts near Mole and Railway Station. 3 Mark II over Benghazi 2111, to 0030 hours, bad visibility, hits area harbour and dock railway. 4 Mark 1C over Tripoli 2023 to 0300 hours, hits area Castelle Railway Station Military Stores, fires in west of town. 5 Mark II over Naples, 1925 to 0145 hours hits area Railway Station, two 4000 lb. bombs near marshalling yard and Gasworks. 4 Mark 1C over Brindisi 2048 to 0220 hrs. Hits Railway track, Barracks, two factories ablaze, harbour oil tanks hit. Explosions every few minutes, dense clouds, black smoke, fire visible 100 miles. All aircraft returned.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1830/20, 1837/20).

Supply of S/M torpedoes at Malta.

Your 1040B/16 approved.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1841A/20 to C. in C. Med).

EMPIRE DEFENDER.

Have you any news of EMPIRE DEFENDER other than her report of an air attack at 1624/15?
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1842A/20 to V.A. Malta)
Reply: 1149B/21.

Russian Ships from Black Sea.

My 1200/17. No further suitable officers can be found. Can you find any Turkish or other suitable persons to bring some of these ships down? Value of ships would justify substantial reward to be paid to persons concerned after safe arrival of ships.
(C. in C. Med., 2332B/20 to A.NA. Istanbul)

Enemy M/Vs. attacked.

5 Blenheims attacked convoy consisting of 1 5,000 ton M/V, 1 2,000 ton M/V and a schooner in position 145' E.S.E. of Homs, bound westwards. Largest M/V seen hit and listing heavily. Schooner also hit and last seen low in the water.
(D.S. 808, 21/11) No time mentioned.

MOST SECRET

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

W.S.12X. — All unit vehicles carrying as much equipment and baggage as possible loaded into stores ships all of which can proceed direct Basra. Details of (a) unit (b) total personnel (c) deadweight baggage and equipment in WEST POINT, WAKEFIELD, MOUNT VERNON, ORIZABA, J.T. DICKMAN, LEONARD WOOD.
(W.O., 0120/20 to C. in C. India.)

W.S.12. — REVENGE escorting Convoy W.S.12 arrived Aden, a.m./20.
(D.O.R., 21/11.)

U.S.13. — CORNWALL escorting Convoy U.S.13 arrived Aden a.m./20.
(D.O.R., 21/11.)

JELADURGA aground. — Following from Lloyds, Vizagapatam. Pass to Lloyds, London. JELADURGA aground in 016° 50' N., 082° 22' E.
(N.O.I.C. Vizagapatam, 0635Z/20 to S.O.I. Bombay.)

KANIMBLA. — My 1116/20, not to all addressees. (1) On arrival Penang (? 28/11) you will come under orders of C. in C. China for onward passage to Singapore and Australia. (2) C.N.S., A.C.N.B., Melbourne, will be taking passage in KANIMBLA to Australia from Singapore. (3) You will not return to East Indies Station.
(C. in C. E.I., 1118Z/20 to KANIMBLA.)

China.

Japanese S/Ms. — Indications of Japanese submarine activity.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0501Z/20 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

AQUITANIA. — Left Singapore 19/11 due Sydney 0330/28/11. Fuel on board, and requirements.
(R.A. Malaya, 0945Z/20 to D. of S.T.)

/Free.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

Free French Movements. Your 0827/6 has been considered by Committee on Foreign (Allied) Resistance. Neither this Committee nor Free French H.Q. have much information about an increase of Free French activities in Far East. 2. Whole question of liaison with Free French is under consideration with H.M.G. No settlement can be reached for a few weeks, and no decision can be taken on your proposal at present. 3. Request further details of the problems, activities and issues referred to.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1637A/20 to C. in C. China.)

Defences Nancowry. Your 0309Z/9. Request you will give further consideration to installation of defences at Western entrance in view of DANAE's No. 012, R/C report of Nancowry harbour dated 22/8/41 para. 18 and Appendix I, para. 8. 2. Experience has shown that contact mines cannot be relied upon and moreover are dangerous to our own ships if they break adrift.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 2026A/20 to C. in C. China.)

America and West Indies.

ILLUSTRIOUS. Your 0950/17 and with further reference to my 0300/14/9 and 0032/4/10 and your 1144/25/9 request report be forwarded as soon as possible stating whether trials of after F/C system of ILLUSTRIOUS will have been completed when ship sails.
(D. of D. Bath, 0002A/20 to B.A.R.M.)

DESPATCH. Proceed St. Thomas forthwith and complete fuelling. Further orders follow.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0932Q/20 to DESPATCH.)

HERMA, suspicious ship 6/11. My 1801R/18. Vessel sighted by HERMA now believed to be U.S. Army Transport HENRY GIBBONS which left Balboa 0757/6 for Antofogasta. Description, course and speed tally.
(B.A.D., 0955R/20 to Admty.)

/Routes.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

Routes for Ships for Russia.
Your 1606/18. Details of Archangel convoys have been communicated to B.A.D. Washington in A.M.2156/15.
2. Communication between Convoys and Soviet Naval Authorities carried out through S.B.N.Os., North Russia and Archangel.
3. Ships for Persian Gulf routed independently in the same manner as British Ships.
(D.T.D., 1153A/20 to N.A. Washington.)

INDOMITABLE.
Your 1837/17. Proceed in accordance with proposed programme unless further orders are received from Admty.
(B.A.R.M., 1230R/20 to INDOMITABLE.)

St. John's, N.F.
B.A.T.M. Washington's 1009R/19. Full development at St. John's considered imperative.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1351Z/20 to Admty.)

SONNAVIND.
Have you any news of Norwegian SONNAVIND due Panama 16/11 from Cebu?
(D.T.D., 1554A/20 to S.O.I. Jamaica.)
Reply: 1249R/22.

St. Lucia, coal stock.
My 1211Q/20/10 and your 1102Q/12/11. Present stock of coal at St. Lucia 13,000 tons. Further 8,000 tons on way out. Normal storage 17,000 but some space now occupied by U.S. stores. Other available site if used liable to disturb labour market owing to extra distance from wharf. Would assist if advice of date of arrival could be given of ships from U.K. and North America ports as well as those from South America and U.S. ports which are being already sent.
(R.N.O. St. Lucia, 1630Q/20 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Small Craft.
For B.A.S.R. Your 1405R/11 (N.T. in W.D.)
1. Prompt execution of B.Y.T. contract is much appreciated.
2. But advanced dates raise question of winter passage. Unwise to bring these very small ships across during winter season. Proposed that sailing should be postponed till April.
3. Mercantile navigating crews will be sent early in March for all five vessels. Vessels should not be manned by naval ratings.
4. Guns may now be in time to be fitted.
5. Designations already communicated by Admty. 1332A/17.
(Head of S. 1712A/20 to B.A.D.)
Reply: B.A.D., 2005/21.

/American....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

American Convoy Assembly Ports.

For 1st S.L.
Question of convoy assembly ports is now under review in Ottawa, vide N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1508Z/12, and we know Navy Dept. is considering question of using U.S. ports for this purpose. Much to be said for adopting this last alternative for H.X. convoys and that when U.S. come into war this will be done anyhow. Have discussed these questions with Manisty who has heard Canadian views in Ottawa. I propose to visit Ottawa with Manisty leaving here 24/11 and will report result before going further with Navy Dept. Glad of any guidance on subject.
(B.A.D., 1755R/20 to Admty.)

Neutral Ships calling Bermuda.

My 2231/20/9 not to Admty. Important that advance information of all westbound neutral vessels which are likely to call at Bermuda either with mails or for examination of passengers should be passed direct to me at earliest possible moment for Contraband Control purposes. Information should include (a) port of departure (b) date and time of departure (c) name of ship (d) E.T.A. Bermuda.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1801Q/20 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

OLGA TOPIC

OLGA TOPIC (Yugoslav) arrived Iquique 2000 G.M.T./20.
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1830R/20 to Admty., etc.)
W.D. Note. Was reported sunk 3 days out from Balboa. (See 18/11.)

P.511, P.551.

F.O. (S) 1511A/2. Submarines P.511 and P.551 will sail St. John's, N.F. 2100Z/21 proceeding in company to position (X) 50.50 N. 45.00 W. at 11 knots thence diverging, P.511 to (A) 51.50 N. 44.00 W. to (B) 55.30 N. 30.00 W.; and P.551 to (P) 50.30 N. 44.00 W. to (Q) 54.10 N. 30.00 W., speeds 11 and 12 knots respectively. Submarines report that fuel endurance limits them to as direct route as possible, particularly P.511. Until onward routeing from C. in C. W.A. is received they have orders to continue from 30° W. direct towards 57.00 N. 10.00 W. for P.511 and 56.00 N. 10.00 W. for P.551. They have orders to comply with F.O. (S) 1639A/10. Submarines have complete establishment of S.P's and C.B's according to A.2.C. para. 41. Opnav pass to C.T.F.4.
(C.C.N.F., 1927Z/20 to Admty., etc.)

/AGAMEMNON....

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

AGAMEMNON, CALIFORNIA. Your 2017Z/18.
BELMONT and GARLAND will provide escort from Halifax for AGAMEMNON and CALIFORNIA. Expected these destroyers will arrive in Halifax with C.T.7 about 1/12 and ships could therefore sail on 4/12 approx. Please state convenient sailing date.
(D.O.D. (H), 2027A/20 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

LIVERPOOL. Your 1822A/8/10. Provided weather conditions do not interfere with working up intend LIVERPOOL to leave Bermuda 28/11. E.T.A. Clyde, 5/12.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2222Q/20, to Admty.)

MONT VISO (French) Your 1939R/17 and para. 3 of Washington Arfar No.6948. Is interception of MONT VISO also desired? Request details of voyage.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 2345A/20 to B.A.D.)

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

S.Atlantic. D/F bearing indicates U-boat activity Cape Blanco area.
(VIMY 1115N/20 to C. in C.S.A.)
Reports of U/B in Quicombo area.
(C. in C.S.A., 1231N/20.)
See South Atlantic.

Estimated approximate positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1423A/20, 1424A/20.)

19/11. Following received from N.C.S.O. St. Vincent (begins) - U-boat reported off Mayo 19/11 (ends). Not graded.
(C. in C.S.A., 2014N/20, to Admty.)

Submarines Attacked.

FERRARIS (sunk 25/10.) From report of C.O. LAMERTON concerning destruction of Italian U-Boat FERRARIS, it appears that Catalina No. A.H. 538 played a large part in her destruction. Copy of report is being forwarded to you, but it is suggested you may desire to initiate recommendations with regard to awards to personnel of Catalina.
(C. in C.W.A., 1140A/20, to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Harwich was closed on account of fog from 1405A to 1540A today.
L.L. Drifter ROWAN TREE grounded in the entrance to Lowestoft harbour this evening, necessitating closing the port. The drifter is a total wreck.

British Air Operations.

Bad weather curtailed operational flying today and tonight.

Enemy Air Operations.

M.S. Trawler CAPE MELVILLE called for help at 1409 today near 56 Buoy. No further details are known.

Mining.

Lowestoft was reopened at 1615A today.

North Atlantic.

SCOTTISH today intercepted the Vichy French auxiliary fishing ketch stated to be PANCEITE ANNIK *bound from Douarnenez to Mauretania.
* or PETITE ANNIK (? PETITE ANNIE).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11 1941
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic. -Contd.

The French S.S. ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER and ILE D'OUESSANT which left New York on 15/11 for Casablanca loaded are expected to be between 30° N. and 35° N. between 22/11 and 26/11 along the course of HAWKINS who is returning to U.K. HAWKINS is to carry out a patrol in this area in order to try to capture these ships. CORINTHIAN after fuelling at Ponta Delgada is also to proceed on patrol for the same purpose and MARSDALE on patrol is also moving into the area.

Mediterranean.

Dismissal of General Weygand.

The Admiralty consider that the dismissal of General Weygand from his appointment as Delegate in North Africa may indicate early German attempts to pass large quantities of men or material through Bizerta, Tunis or Bona; and they consider the air R/C of these ports should be increased.

S/M and air operations 2 cruisers torpedoed.

UTMOST at 2323B reported 3 destroyers and 3 cruisers in 37° 48' N. 15° 43' E. (Straits of Messina) steering S.E. (apparently escorting a convoy) and that she had torpedoed and probably sunk one cruiser.
Air Ministry state that the convoy was attacked at 2249 (but see 22/11) off Cotrone by Albacores, Swordfish and Wellingtons. It then consisted of 5 ships escorted by a cruiser and 5 destroyers and was widely spaced, and one tanker of 6000 tons appeared to have been damaged and was steering towards Taranto. A hit with torpedo is claimed on a cruiser and one on a 7000 ton merchantman.
SOKOL at 2340 B reported that she had obtained 2 hits on a convoy consisting of 3 merchant ships and a destroyer in 36° 34' N. 21° 34' E. (off Navarino Bay) steering 230°.

Air operations.

Wellingtons attacked Messina, Naples and Brindisi last night. Five Naval Swordfish laid mines in Tripoli harbour and bombed the town.

Operations M.E.7 ("Landmark" "Aggression").

1st B.S. 15th C.S. and 11 fleet destroyers sailed this ~~Friday~~ morning in support of operation "Landmark" in which a dummy convoy escorted by Force K sailed from Malta to the southward p.m. today, returning to Malta after dark. The object was to contain an enemy force by giving the impression of an intended landing in the Tripoli area tomorrow morning.
The 7th C.S. (which left Alexandria with 2 destroyers yesterday) joined the battle fleet a.m. today after completing the bombardment of last night.

/Operations...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operations M.E.7 ("Landmark" "Aggression"). -Contd.

After this, the Hunt class destroyers were detached from the 7th C.S. to Alexandria for operation "Aggression". (Supply of Libyan and Western Desert ports).

America and West Indies.

Ex U.S.A. S/M's. P 511 and P 551 which have been transferred to Great Britain sailed from St. Johns N.F. this evening for the U.K.

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 21.11.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

FIDELITY. Asking his views as to suitability for employment as an A/A ship after refit.
(D.O.D. (H) 1610A/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

Co-operation with Russia.

EXPLORER. Re-use for conveyance of Polish personnel to U.K.
(D. of S.T., 1412A/21.)

Movements.

GURKHA. Unable to maintain station. Am lying to until daylight.
(GURKHA, 0635A/21 to NELSON.)
Arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 2310A/21.)

CUTTY SARK. Proceed to Holy Loch.
(Capt. S.3., 0943A/21 to CUTTY SARK.)
Cancel my 0943A/21. Comply with my 1053A/17* para. 2.
(Capt. (S) 3, 1410A/21 to CUTTY SARK.)
* Presumably 1055/17. CUTTY SARK to R/V with RORQUAL.
CUTTY SARK 3 miles east of Lundy Hove to, to R/V 270 Wolf Rock 3 at 0800/22.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1930/21.)

A/A escort to floating crane. My 1801A/18. ROCHESTER is not to sail till further orders.
(C. in C. W.A., 0954A/21 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

M.G.B's. 65, 67. Harwich 21/11 arrival M.G.B.'s 65 and 67.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1015A/21.)

MANXMAN. Proceed to Port Z.A in accordance with Admty. 1945A/19. Report E.T.A. before sailing.
(V.A.(2), 1030A/21, 1032A/21 to MANXMAN.)

PRINCESS ASTRID. A.M. 1837A/19. Intend sailing PRINCESS ASTRID for Aultbea for inclusion in next W.N. Convoy to Methil thence as ordered by C. in C. Rosyth onward to Sheerness. Anticipated date of arrival cannot be given at present.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1034A/21.)

RORQUAL. Cancel my 2254A/20. Proceed to R/V off Wolf Rock as ordered by S.3, S.B.R. remain in force in areas 52, 54 and 56.
(F.O.S., 1257A/21 to RORQUAL.)

/KENYA....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

KENYA. Arrived.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1109C/21.)

JAY. JAY to avoid U-Boats steer for position (A) 054° 00' N. 036° 00' W. thence (R) omit (Q).
(C. in C. W.A., 1133A/21 to LORD GREY.)

NELSON. NELSON should proceed to Scapa.
V.A.2 is requested to sail her to arrive May Island at 0900/23.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1137A/21 to NELSON, V.A.2.)

ZULU. My approx. P.C. and S. 054° 07' N. 012° 22' W., 060°, 15 knots. At 0615 touch was lost with NELSON when ship broached to taking considerable quantity of water on board. Port dynamo defective due to salt water. Certain amount of upper deck damage. Weather moderate. GURKHA and SIKH not in company.
(ZULU, 1154A/21.)

HAWKINS. C. in C. S.A. 1511N/17.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to route HAWKINS from Position D to Portsmouth south of Ireland.
2. Ship is carrying £3 millions gold.
3. Request fighter protection may be provided.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1219A/21 to C. in C. W.A.)
HAWKINS may give three weeks leave to each watch on arrival.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1220A/21.)

WELSHMAN, MANXMAN. C. in C. H.F. 1119/20.
1. Admiralty will operate these ships.
2. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail MANXMAN for Port ZA in accordance with A.M. 1945/19.
3. WELSHMAN is to remain at Scapa at four hours notice.
4. MANXMAN is to retain outfit now embarked.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1221A/21 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S.)

SHEFFIELD. Arrived Scapa.
(A.C.O.S., 1413A/21.)

H.43. At 1300/22 intend to sail H.43 escorted by H.M.T. HILDASAY G.V.P.T. expected time of arrival (? Rothesay) 1100/23. Routed via Sound Mull and West of Islay. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection.
(WESTERN ISLES, 1445A/21.)

/BEDOUIN.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.- Contd.

BEDOUIN, INTREPID.	BEDOUIN and INTREPID due Cola 0900C/22 request Group Y Lights from 0600. (BEDOUIN, 1508C/21 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) Your 1508C/21. Arrangements made. Pilot will board INTREPID to proceed Rosta. BEDOUIN anchor at Vaenga Bay. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1931C/21 to BEDOUIN.)
MINERVE.	F.O.S. 1139A/21. Intend to sail MINERVE escorted by LOCH MONTEITH from Dundee 1530A/22 inside mine barrage to position 90° Sumburgh Head 10 miles thence unescorted during by day thro' position (a) 90° Out Skerries 10 miles (b) 61° 38' N. 000° 12' W. (c) 61° 56' N. 1° 10' E. thence to waiting position in the vicinity of 61° 49' N. 3° 41' E. On parting company with MINERVE, LOCH MONTEITH is to proceed to Lerwick. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange fighter protection to Sumburgh Head. (Capt. (S) 9, 1543A/21.)
SIKH.	My P.C. and S. 054° 00' N. 010° 58' W., 030°, 17. Asdic Dome leaking and unserviceable, dinghy washed overboard, motor boat damaged and other superficial damage on upper deck. 40% fuel remaining for E.T.A. Moville 0300/22 weather report. (SIKH, 1601A/21 to C. in C. W.A.)
Floating crane.	Re towing. (D. of S.T., 1625A/21.)
P.38, FERNIE.	Submarine P.38 is due E A 4, 0900/22 from position 050° 27' N. 000° 24' W. has been informed of your passage. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1725A/21 to FERNIE.)
9th M.S.F.	Request you will sail available ships of 9th M.S.F. to Harwich to arrive p.m./1/12. Request ships over 400 hours be boiler cleaned before sailing. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1725A/21 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/EREBUS.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.- Contd.

EREBUS, ROBERTS. Proceed passing Switha 0300/22, to R/V with EREBUS escorted by MEYNELL and WALPOLE at daylight. EREBUS is due to pass Kinnaird Head at 0800/22nd.
(2) When met take over escort duties to Pentland Firth where you will be relieved by VANQUISHER and WITCH. When relieved return to Scapa.
(3) ECLIPSE acknowledge.
(R.A.(D) H.F., 1852A/21 to ECLIPSE, CHIDDINGFOLD.)
A.M. 1919A/6.
ROBERTS and EREBUS will leave U.K. with Convoy O.S.13 on 1/12 to join Med. Fleet.
2. They will remain with the convoy to vicinity of the Azores where they will part company to refuel at Ponta Delgada.
3. After refuelling they will proceed in company to Freetown.
4. Cs. in C. concerned are requested to arrange for onward passage from Freetown at best speed. There is no objection to ships proceeding independently after Freetown if this is considered advisable.
5. Escorts will be provided as follows:-
(a) Escort of O.S.13 from U.K. will be increased by one destroyer to vicinity of Azores, returning to U.K. after refuelling at Ponta Delgada.
(b) BRADFORD from Gibraltar will join EREBUS and ROBERTS in the vicinity of Azores.
(c) In the event of bad weather making it impossible for EREBUS and ROBERTS to keep up with convoy, two of the convoy escort are to be detailed to remain with EREBUS and ROBERTS.
(d) On arrival in vicinity of Azores these 2 escorts in addition to BRADFORD are to remain with the monitors, provide A/S escort while refuelling and subsequent onward escort to Freetown.
7. C. in C. W.A. is requested to:-
(a) Arrange for EREBUS and ROBERTS to be sailed from Lough Foyle as requisite to join O.S.13.
(b) Provide destroyer escort as in para. 5(a).
(c) Detail and instruct escorts as in paras. 5(c) and (d).
(d) Arrange with F.O.C.N.A. for BRADFORD to be sailed as in para. 5(b).
(e) Arrange for refuelling at Ponta Delgada of all ships as detailed above.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1928A/21 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Greenock.) O.D.1312/41.
Remain as escort for EREBUS until relieved by ECLIPSE and CHIDDINGFOLD, proceed thence overtake F.S.55 due number 5 buoy 0400/23rd. Do not exceed 22 knots. Report expected time overtaking to S.E.E.C.C.D.
(C. in C. Nore, 2224A/21 to MEYNELL, WALPOLE.)

/MANXMAN....

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

MANXMAN, RAMILLIES. — MANXMAN may be met tonight southbound. (C. in C. W.A., 2338A/21 to RAMILLIES.)

Operations.

C.S.10. — Am ideally situated to act against German Convoy route nights 23rd and 24th Nov. Request Intelligence. (C.S.10, 1844Z/21 to C. in C. H.F.)

British Air Operations.

T.B.R. — Cancel my 1422/20. Request T.B.R. in area bounded on south 049° 30' N. on east 002° 30' W. on west 004° 00' W. on N. by land from 0730 to 1700/22. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1242/21 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Operations.

CAPE MELVILLE. — Help - 56 Buoy. (CAPE MELVILLE, 1409/21 to Yarmouth.)

STOKE CITY (bombed 20/11.) — My 1540A/20th. Preliminary report STOKE CITY afloat at Vestmanhavn unable to raise steam. She will probably be towed South but further reports will be made after more detailed examination of damage. Only casualty, C.O. injured. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 2032A/21.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary. — One S.A. mine detonated 0950/20 168° No. 1 Sea Reach Buoy 3.9 cables by M.M.S.113 and M.M.S.19. This is the 50th mine detonated by M.M.S.19. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness, 0929/21.)

Propose to hold a meeting at Chatham 1030/25 to consider recent minelaying activity in Thames Estuary. Request representatives may attend if convenient. (C. in C. Nore, 1119A/21 to R.A.F. and Military concerned.)

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET

21.11.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Operation Q.O. (clearance of lines of mines.)

Your 1552A/16. Short title of Operation Q.O. Estimate that about 7 working days will be required to carry out this operation, provided no unfavourable factors develop. Operation can only be carried out in good weather conditions and ships must return to Harwich periodically for fuel and stores. It is therefore expected that the operation will be spread over a period of 3 to 4 weeks. Normal procedure will be for the sweepers to leave Kentish Knock Whistle Buoy at daylight proceeding to a defined area within 10 miles of a position 116° 35 miles from Orfordness and returning so as to arrive back at Kentish Knock one hour before dark. Fighter escort will be asked for during daylight hours and H.Q.F.C. will be asked to inform C. in C. Nore at daylight on operating days if the cloud and weather conditions are such as to render air protection ineffective in which case operation will be postponed. Proposed date for starting the operation 4/12.
(C. in C. Nore, 1054/21 to Admty.)
Your 1702A/17 as clearing of area concerned will not start until 4/12 and sweeping operations may take some weeks suggest PLOVER will not be required as early as 25/11.
(2) Concur that operations by PLOVER on moonlit nights are undesirable. Owing to distance of these operations from our coast and number of days at this time of year when air escort is ineffective owing to low cloud night operations during dark night periods are preferred to day operations especially if it is desired to keep enemy in ignorance of operations.
(3) If a minelayer larger than PLOVER but capable of working from Harwich can be made available she would be preferred to ADVENTURE as risk of bombing whilst on passage from and to Humber is considerable and uncertainty of winter weather may cause postponement at last minute involving return to Humber with mines on board. Moreover a ship of size of ADVENTURE is not safe from ground mines in shallow water to be found in Humber and Channels between that port and Aldeburgh.
(C. in C. Nore, 1500A/21.)
My 1552A/16. In order to expedite completion of operation five ships of 9th M.S.F. and POOLE of 14th M.S.F. are being sailed to Harwich to arrive p.m./1/12.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 1723A/21.)

/RORQUAL.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

RORQUAL. Operation F.D.34.

F.O.(S) 1257A/21.
(i) If not already done carry out F.D.34. Previous arrangements for route, lights and R/V to stand. S.B.R. in area 55 and in area 51 south of 050° N. and East of 006° 30' W. remain in force.
(ii) Should F.D.34 be completed proceed to R/V with CUTTY SARK in position 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles at 0800A/22, lights as in my 1157A/19.
(iii) T.B.R. in area 51 south of 050° N. and east of 006° 30' W. will be in force daily between 0800A to 1200A from 22nd Nov. until further notice.
(Capt. (S) 3, 1537A/21 to RORQUAL.)

Yarmouth.

Port is now open.
(F.O.i/c Great Yarmouth, 1615A/21.)

Plymouth.

Red mine detonated 1328 today by MOONRISE 240° Breakwater light 5 cables. Possible old enemy mine laid Nov. 1940. Investigations proceeding.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1831/21.)

Operations Q.E.3, Q.E.4A.

2 M.G.Bs. sailed for Q.E.(3). 2 M.Ls. sailed for Q.E.(4A).
(C. in C. Nore, 2331A/21.)

Technical.

Minor War Vessels Recognition Signals.

Your 1624/14/11. Alternative (2) preferred.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0022/21 to Admty.)

Navigational.

Harwich.

Port closed owing to fog.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1405A/21.)
Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1540A/21.)

Lowestoft.

Reference my 1657A/21* Port of Lowestoft closed.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 1743A/21.)
* ROWAN TREE grounded in Harbour mouth.

MOST SECRET

21.11.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

S.S. EMPIRE DORADO. S.S. EMPIRE MOULDER (sic) damaged in collision in 57° 58' N. 20° 39' W. at 2320/20.
ZWARTE ZEE with escort to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0359A/21 to N.O.i/c. Londonderry, C. in C. W.A., 0420A/21, 0648A/21.)
Will proceed to assist S.S. EMPIRE MOULDER when escort vessel arrives.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 0720A/21 to Capt. (D) Londonderry.)
Sailed ZWARTE ZEE 0940A/21. SKATE 1150A/21.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 1000A/21, N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1151A/21.)

BROADWAY. Your 1800Z/20. Proceed Greenock for repairs water at Londonderry if necessary.
(C. in C. W.A., 0409A/21 to BROADWAY.)

LINCOLNSHIRE. Sailed MARAUDER to assist LINCOLNSHIRE proceeding Loch Ewe with defective steering gear.
(N.O.i/c. Stornoway, 0506A/21.)

S.S. RUGELY. On completion of swinging proceed direct to assist S.S. RUGELY aground in Ardnell Bay between Ardrossan and Farland Point. MASTODONTE is also proceeding. H.W. is at 1453.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0909Q/21 to CAROLINE MOLLER, 0915A/21 to MASTODONTE.)

M.L.219. Motor Launch 219 has been ashore on Goat Island in St. Vincent Harbour but has been refloated. Ship holed in engine room.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1058A/21.)

ROWAN TREE. M/S Drifter ROWAN TREE grounded in harbour mouth at 1515/21, now total wreck restricting entrance.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 1657A/21, F.O.i/c. Yarmouth 1902A/21.)

P.38. Conform (? confirm) R/V 1100/22. Sub. Lieut. Christoffer lost overboard in heavy seas.
(P.38, 1848A/21.)

TJALDUR. TJALDUR returned with defects and short bunker.
(A.C.I.C., 2250N/21.)

S.S. SHERWOOD. Harwich departure Tug KENIA to assist merchant ship aground on South Shipwash.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2327/21.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

F.N.59.
F.S.54.

My 1536/18. No A/S trawler available for F.N. 59 and F.S.54.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1000A/21 to C. in C. Nore.)

Incorrect routeing.

Reference A.M. 1437/29/9 further investigation shows that refernce to Canadian ports was made in error.
(D.T.D., 1443A/21.)

P.Q.3.

P.Q.3 of 6 ships escorted by GOSSAMER, HUSSAR, SEAGULL, SPEEDY should arrive North Dvina at 1000/22. BEDOUIN passengers transferred to SEAGULL. GOSSAMER and HUSSAR will sail for U.K. with Q.P.3. SEAGULL and SPEEDY are to sail to arrive Murmansk a.m./24 to fuel and to carry out mine-sweeping on passage if time permits.
(S.O. 1st M.F., 1520C/21.)
E.T.A. North Dvina daylight/22. In order to effect necessary transfers request icebreakers may be instructed to call at ships in following order J.63, J.82, J.17 and J.85. General Gronnov and party are in SEAGULL.
(GOSSAMER, 1750C/21 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

H.X.157.

Delayed by Easterly winds for last 7 days. EL LAGO straggler and complete convoy arrived except ROSE SCHIAFFIANO which ship is unaccounted for and does not appear to have found convoy.
(D.T.D., 1742A/21.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping. Passing Gibraltar westbound 0900/20. (D.O.R. 22/11)

MARSDALE. Your 2300A/20. Shift patrol to D.Z.1. (F.O.C.N.A.0602A/21 to MARSDALE)

HERMIONE. Arrived. (F.O.C.N.A. 0802A/21 to Admty. etc.)

WILD SWAN. Admty. 1844A/20. WILD SWAN sailed 0840A/21 for Freetown refuelling at Bathurst (ii) WILD SWAN (?is) routed through position (W) 33.00 N. 09.30 W. (X) 12.00 13.50 (Y) 24.45 17.35 (Z) 20.00 19.00 thence to Bathurst keeping 60 miles from Dakar or as routed by C. in C. S.A. S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. Bathurst 1200/26. (F.O.C.N.A. 0840A/21 to C. in C. S.A. amended 1044A/21.)

BANFF. Arrived Ponta Delgada 0900 G.M.T./21. Left 1430 G.M.T.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 0905/21, 1245/21 to S.O.I. Gib.)

CLYDE. Part company 2000A/21 and proceed to Gibraltar along route given in my 1828A/20. Report your P.C. and S. of A. when 100 miles clear of DINGLEDALE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1110A/21 to CLYDE.)

German Ships, Las Palmas. Since German ship berthed alongside breakwater armed guard placed prohibiting entrance and Marine Authorities have cancelled permit to passes previously held including those held by fisherman for fishing at night.
(Las Palmas, 1210/21 to Admty.)

CORINTHIAN search for French M/Vs. CORINTHIAN arrived bunkering.
(Vice Consul Horta 1233/21 to Admty.)
Complete with fuel and water as it may be necessary for you to return to patrol.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1324A/21 to CORINTHIAN.)

/A.M.1324A/21 ...

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CORINTHIAN search for French M/Vs. Contd.

A.M.1324A/21. On completion proceed patrol area C.Z.3 37° N - 38° N., 30° W. - 33° W., leaving patrol to R/V with S.L.93 in position 34° 00' N., 24° 00' W., A.M./29. 2. Object to intercept and seize French M/Vs., ILE DE NOIR-MOUTIER and ILE D'OUESSANT bound New York to Casablanca. 3. If seized ships are to be sent with prize crews to Bermuda.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1701A/21 to CORINTHIAN.)

HAWKINS, search for French M/V's.

A.M. 1219A/21. French M/Vs., ILE DE NOIR-MOUTIER and ILE D'OUESSANT bound from New York to Casablanca may be between 30° N., and 35° N., between 22nd and 26/11 along your course. 2. Within prudent limit of endurance to allow you to reach Portsmouth south of Ireland carry out patrol in this area. 3. Report when leaving patrol for U.K. 4. If met ships are to be captured and sent under prize crews to Bermuda.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1439A/21 to HAWKINS.)
W.D. Note. Cancelled by Admty., 2048A/22.
Q.V., America & West Indies.

JOAO PESSOA. (German.)

Telegram 255 Madrid Commercial 185 B.N.A. Madrid S.O.(I) Gibraltar. JOAO PESSOA expected to complete loading 25/11. Voyages of the larger ships are being accelerated. Iron ore shipped from Bilbao since July 1st is approx., 150,000 tons.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1257/21, to Admty.)

PETITE ANNIE intercepted.

Have intercepted in position 280 P C L 20 Vichy French Auxiliary Ketch PANCEITE ANNIK (Sic) from Douarnenez to Mauretaia to fish Lobster. Request instructions. Consider genuine.
(SCOTTISH , 1900Z/21, to F.O.C.N.A.)
(W.D. Note. ? PETITE ANNIE.See 2000A/22.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

DEVONSHIRE
CANTON.

Your 1955N/20. Proceeding at 18 knots E.T.A.R/V 007° 30' N., 033° 05' W., at 1800N/23. Have sufficient fuel to remain in area G 33 D until 2000N/24.
(DEVONSHIRE 0025Z/21 to C. in C.S.A.)
In view of DEVONSHIRE's 0025Z/21. CANTON is not to to wait for DEVONSHIRE but is to proceed to search northward through eastern half of G.33 C and return through western half to patrol in H 33 D.H.34 C, in accordance with my 1801N/18. DEVONSHIRE is to search through western half of G 33 D continuing to northward through western half of G 33 B as far as fuel permits, then return to Freetown.
(C. in C.S.A., 1017N/21, Amended 1235N/21 to DEVONSHIRE, CANTON.)
Steer 140° 25 knots.
(C. in C.S.A., 1858N/21, to DEVONSHIRE.)

W.S.12X.

Major Gen., Beckwith-Smith, Cdg. 18th Div., in this convoy requests all troops may be disembarked at Capetown for recreation and exercise. Request you make necessary arrangements.
3. Approx., numbers embarked in each ship: WESTPOINT, 5112; WAKEFIELD, 5000; MOUNT VERNON, 5139; ORIZABA, 1650; LEONARD WOOD, 1476; J.T. DICKMAN, 1428.
(D.S.T., 0349A/21 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)
Ref. N.C.S.O. Trinidad's 1401/19. Request you will comply.
(D.S.T., 0353A/21 to S.T.O. Capetown.)

C.M.23.

Your 0321/20. Composition of C.M.23 as in my 1201/14. (?21) not now being used. CHANTILLY will probably be included if ship arrives capable of continuing voyage.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1151B/21 to D. of S.T.)

Air R/C from
Walvis Bay.

Admty., 1505A/20. I hope S.A.A.F. will be able to continue to work a coastal flight from Walvis Bay. If the Beauforts have arrived perhaps some of them could work from there while present diversion is in force.
(C. in C.S.A., 1335N/21, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

/ALCANTARA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

ALCANTARA. Request date ALCANTARA is to arrive Newport News. Undesirable she should fuel at New Orleans owing to oil rationing; intend therefore to give her 500 tons from Oiler ARNDALE and that she should fuel Trinidad. Intend to employ her on trade route (?patrol) until required to leave S.A.D. for refit.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1457Z/21, to C. in C.S.A.)
Oiler ARNDALE will meet you at F.O. Embark from her 500 tons fuel and your stores. Discharge to her all personnel stores and mail except those for BULOLO, and depth charges. Then send Oiler ARNDALE to sea R/V "ORANGE" she is to return to F.O. by daylight/28/11. ALCANTARA proceed patrol K 32, K 33.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1501Z/21, to ALCANTARA.)

S.L.Convoy. Departure 0700 LANDGUARD, LULWORTH, BIDEFORD, Oiler RAPIDOL, CULVER, BERGAMOT, 1700 GORLESTON. Escorting S.L.convoy.
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1617N/21 to C. in C.S.A.)

DUNEDIN. My 1925/21. (N.T. in W.D.) Proceed at 2200 at 16 knots.
(C. in C.S.A., 2001N/21 to DUNEDIN.)

WACOSTA. My 2123Z/20. WACOSTA arrived at Buenos Aires.
(S.O.I., Monte Video, 2117Z/21, to Admty.)

BIRMINGHAM. Arrival 21/11 R.A.S.A.D. in BIRMINGHAM.
(N.O.I.C. Falklands, 2121Z/21, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

MARITZA, SANTA FE, PROCIDA, DELOS, (German). ALBA JULIA, (Roumanian).

B.2. reports that ships entered Piraeus Harbour between 13/11 and 15/11. (D.S. 808, 21/11).

UNBEATEN.

Capt. S.1., 2207B/18. Unless otherwise ordered patrol in 033° 16' 012° 51' which position enemy ship approaching on course 155° for (?Tripoli).
(Capt. S.10., 0902B/21 to UNBEATEN).

Fleet Movements.

Arrivals 20/11.- TALISMAN, M.L.1051, KHEIREDDIN.
Departures 20/11.-TRIUMPH, AJAX, HOBART, NEPTUNE, HEYTHROP, AVONVALE.
Departures 21/11 - NAPIER, KIMBERLEY, KIPLING NIZAM, JACKAL, KANDAHAR, JERVIS, HASTY, HOTSPUR, DECOY, KINGSTON, BARHAM, VALIANT, NAIAD, EURYALUS, GALATEA, QUEEN ELIZABETH.
(S.O.(I), Alexandria, 1120B/21)
Sailing PETRELLA with PROTEA Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY and SOUTHERN ISLE in company 1300/21. E.T.A. Alexandria 0800?/22. SOUTHERN ISLE damaged asdic dome and possibly (?steering gear). ? ST. ISSEY to be prepared to tow. SOUTHERN ISLE probably requires (?docking).
(N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh, 1215B/21 to R.A. Alexandria).

EMPIRE DEFENDER (report of A/C attack 15/11).

Your 1842A/20. No.Italian news 17/11 stated two laden enemy merchant vessels attempting to run blockade had been sunk by torpedo carrying aircraft. (V.A. Malta, 1149B/21 to Admty).

GLENROY, lighters, M/Ls. Tobruk.

(?Delete) para 22. Please signal anchor berth outside (?boom) for GLENROY about 2330 if necessary. Request you will provide complete towage for (?all) 16 lighters and both Motor Launches. First tows 10 minutes after arrival will be 6 lighters each side. Second and third tows (?50) minutes later will be 2 motor launches and one big lighter from port side forward and 3 big lighters after side aft.
(R.A. Alexandria, 1225B/21 to N.O. Tobruk).

/Your....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

GLENROY, lighters, M/Ls. Tobruk. Contd.	Your 1225/21. Anchorage outside Boom 197° Tobruk Point Lighthouse 6.5 cables. Holding ground bad in N.or E. wind owing to heavy swell. Non-power towing craft run risk fouling boom with drop lighter. Consider it preferable GLENROY to anchor 261° Tobruk Point 8.8 cables. (N.O.Tobruk, 1715B/21 to R.A. Alexandria).
Bizerta, Tunis, Bona.	Dismissal of General Weygand may indicate early German attempts to pass large quantities of men or material through Bizerta, Tunis or Bona. You may therefore consider it desirable to increase air R/C of these ports. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1252A/21 to C. in C. Med).
GNAT (torpedoed 21/10).	A.F.O. 2551/40 and my (group omitted) 1701/21/10 and 1933/23/10. Board of enquiry into torpedoing of GNAT will not be held as I am satisfied that it would serve no useful purpose. Written report will be forwarded. 2. Reconstruction of GNAT by utilizing CRICKET is considered practicable and will be carried out at Suez. My 1105/25/10. refers. (C. in C. Med., 1331B/21 to Admty).
Enemy M/Vs. and barges.	P.C. and S. of 2 enemy M/Vs. and 2 enemy transport barges 38.56 N., 14.56 E. 140° 10. (A/C L.7F.R. 1400/21 to Hal Far).
Enemy War-ships.	P.C.S. of enemy, 2 cruisers 2 destroyers one aeroplane, 39.10 N. 15.04 E. 15, knots. (A/C I 7 F.R., 1410/21 to Hal Far).
TORBAY, Operation "Copper".	Operation "Copper" paras. 40 to 42. Unless re-embarkation can be completed by Dawn 22/11 you are to return to Alexandria by routealready ordered. Enemy submarines have been sighted patrolling between Tolmeita and Derna. (Capt. S.1. 1551B/21 to TORBAY).
THUNDERBOLT, UPRIGHT, P.31 TRUSTY.	My 1647B/18. Operation B.S. Appendix I Move 45 miles 082°. (Capt. S.1., 1611B/21 to S/Ms named).
Enemy Convoys, Messina.	Two convoys, six destroyers, two merchant ships sighted approaching Messina from N.W. at 1410B. Two merchant ships, two T.Bs. further to North. (Capt. S.10., 1620B/21 to UTMOST).
U/Bs. TRIUMPH.	2. U-boats sighted 035° 55' 026° 42' at 1150B/21 steering 180° diving and continuing submerged towards Kaso Straits.(Capt.S.1.1623B/21 TRIUMPH). My 1623B/21, do not carry out special operation until further instructions. Establish A/S patrol in vicinity Cape Plaka 35° 12' 26° 20' Horn. (Capt. S.1., 2332B/21 to TRIUMPH)

/Passage.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Passage of Destroyer reinforcements.	Unless it is known what cover Force H will be able to provide it is difficult to decide whether destroyers should come through Mediterranean or go round Cape. (ii) At first sight it appears that "Hunts" should go by Cape but that NESTOR, NORMAN and 2 Tribals mentioned in your 2338/10 should probably come through Mediterranean in company with DIDO about 20/12 but they should have support up to point of commencing the night run for the Narrows. Request S.O. Force H views. (C. in C. Med., 1627B/21 to Admty S.O. Force H).
HYACINTH.	HYACINTH escorting ARENA sailed 1530/21 passing Port Said 1100B/22, E.T.A. Haifa 0800C/23. (R.A. Alexandria, 1658B/21 to N.O.I.C.'s Haifa, Port Said.)
Malta Raids	21/11. 3 alarms. 0513 hours 12 Macchi 202's crossed coast. 6 withdrew 6 attacked Halfar cannon and machine guns, very slight damage. 0706 hours 3 enemy aircraft approaching Island shot returning P.R.U. Hurricane into sea. Swordfish located, Launch rescued Pilot. 1212 hours 1 R/C approached did not cross coast. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1805 /21.
Air R/C.	Following received (begins); Med., Fleet repeated S.O. Force "I" R.A. Alexandria, Advance Air H.Q. W.D., from 201 Group. 1 Sunderland carrying out A/S searches shipping routes Alexandria - Ishaila Rocks tonight 21/22. 1 Albacore on A/S search Alexandria - Ras El Kenais 0600/22. T.O.R.1700B/21. (Ends). (R.A. Alexandria, 1805B/21 to Med., Fleet).
Convoy A.T.1.,	Operation "Aggression". Convoy A.T.1. route. Sailed Alexandria 1600 through positions A. 07.45. B. 15.35. D. 19.25. R. 22.50. E.T.A. Tobruk 2100. Code name "Screw". Fighter protection required, from 1500. (S.O. Force I., 1848B/21 to R.A. Alexandria).

/Tobruk....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Tobruk Situation. Situation satisfactory. Military. 1st Objectives captured and consolidated and will be defended as strong points during night. About (?800) prisoners of war taken, half German.
Naval. Boom damaged by last night's bombing. KLO temporary repairs completed. SOTRA sweeping approaches. FALK A/S sweep towards position "R" returning before dawn. 2 motor launches A/S and Alexandria watching abnormal. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk, 2057B/21 to C. in C. Med).

SOKOL, hits on enemy convoy. Your 2025B/21 (N.T. in W.R.) Hearty congratulations. Aerial R/C indicates merchant ships are still in harbour. (Capt. S.1., 2111B/21, to SOKOL).
1 Destroyer, 3 Merchant Ships. P.C. and S. 036° 34' 021° 34' 230° 10. 2 hits.
(SOKOL, 2340B/21 to Capt. S.1).

T.B.R. Sqdns. Admty 2218/29. Torpedo facilities now in hand at Dekheila together with mobile torpedo units are considered adequate. Requirements 3 supernumerary squadrons if 18 additional Trolleys are supplied.
(S.O. Aircraft Carriers Med., 2115B/21 to Admty).

TRIUMPH, THORN. TRIUMPH passes Kaso Strait night of 22/23 or one of two following nights and is ordered to spend one day on patrol off Candia thence proceeding Area A. TRIUMPH has been informed of area of your special operation. From 0001B/23 until completion of your operation you are to remain east of 024° 40' between 036° 00' and 037° 20' N., when leaving Beirut? you are to remain East of line drawn 155° from 036° 00' 026° 14' till South of 035° N. Pass through 035° 00' 027° 00' and thence direct to Alexandria searched Channel. Attention called to Appendix 1 of my memo S.O.48 insertion 4.
(Capt. S.1., 2153B/21 to THORN).

10th S/M Flotilla UNBEATEN. I am regarding you as in operational control 10th S/M Flotilla and will only signal orders if I have information ahead of you. Please confirm. I am moving UNBEATEN to eastwards of Tripoli. 10th Flotilla S/Ms now at sea were prepared for 14 days patrol. Request you will recall them as Necessary. (Capt. S.10 2226B/21 to Capt. S.1).

/Enemy ..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Units. Following is what aircraft D. of N.830 Squadron made to all ships at 2300.
P.C. and S. of enemy 37° 40' N., 15° 32' E., 100° 9 knots. (Malta, H/F, D/F, 2300/21 to all Ships).

Cruiser hit by UTMOST. 3 destroyers, 3 cruisers, P.C. and S. 037° 48' 015° 43' 135° 20 knots, one cruiser hit, probably sunk. (UTMOST, 2323B/21 to V.A. Malta)

TORBAY. E.T.A. 0600/24. Noon position 22nd 033° 46' 023° 31'. (TORBAY, 2347B/21 to Capt. S.1).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Air G.R. Sqdns.	Re operational control in Indian Ocean. (H.Q., R.A.F., Ceylon, 0837/21 to Easfar). See Lion Copy.
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.	Following is repetition of 0237/20 (begins):- Your 2000/18 and C. in C. E.I. 1024/19. Ship cannot be handled Basra. Arrangements have been made for transhipment of these troops at Bombay. S.N.O. Persian Gulf pass to Iraq. (Ends). (P.S.T.O. India, 13252/21 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).
CENTURION.	Admty 1314A/19 para 3. Camouflage scheme will be flown to you in cover reference "Dust". Request this may be delivered to ship. (D.T.S.D., 1645A/21 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

TOMISLAV.	Shanghai. Departure 19/11 TOMISLAV believed under Italian flag. (C.O.I.S. Singapore, 0821Z/21 to Admty).
VILLE DE VERDUN, CAP VARELLA, (French).	VILLE DE VERDUN has left ?Haiphong, destination unknown. Departure Saigon 21/11 CAP VARELLA for Haiphong. (C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0902Z/21 to Admty).
Japanese Shipping.	Ref. C.A.F.O. 299/1941. NITTA MARU and ARGENTINA MARU sailed from Yokohama nights 17 - 18 and 18 - 19 /11 respectively. Both vessels had names and company markings painted (?out), superstructure latterly painted grey. (N.A. Tokyo, 1244/21 to D.N.I.)
ENDEAVOUR.	Admty 2048A/15 and C. in C. China 0501Z/19. Following surveying fittings and stores are to be replaced in ENDEAVOUR before leaving Singapore. O. in C. Singapore Surveying Unit to draw up demands for special stores required and to advise on replacement of fittings. (Hydrographer 1636A/21 to C. in C. China).

/Suspicious....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

Suspicious Ship 6/11.

Following is a repetition of my 0421/21:- My 0817/7. Description similar to Reichenfels type 12,000 tons cargo Motor Vessel (details) Apparently new ship.
Comment. If bow description correct probably German ship FREIENFELS or new sister ship. If not, may be raider "C". Not considered ship is Japanese. A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., C.Z.M. informed. (Capt. O.S., Singapore, 2359Z/21 to Admty) ~~2359Z/21 to Admty;~~ Reply Admty 1811A/23).

America & West Indies.

DIOMEDE.

Your 1101R/7. On completion of patrol commencing 25/11 DIOMEDE and Oiler ORANGELEAF proceed to Balboa so as to transit Canal on 11/12 DIOMEDE proceed to Bermuda via Jamaica, reporting intended programme in due course. Oiler ORANGELEAF proceed to Curacao to load and thence to Jamaica for boiler cleaning.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0912Q/21 to DIOMEDE).
My 0912Q/21. It is not intended to relieve DIOMEDE on Pacific patrol for the present.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0922Q/21 to Admty).

INDOMITABLE.

Following is provisional programme for INDOMITABLE.
Norfolk leave 21/11, Kingston Jamaica, 24/11 - 8/12, Gibraltar 16/12. INDOMITABLE will not call at Trinidad unless necessary to do so for fuel. (-C. in C. A.W.I., 1002Q/21 to N.O.I.C. Kingston etc).

DESPATCH.

Arrived 1100 and sails 1430/21.
(R.O. St. Thomas, 1140/21 to Admty).
DESPATCH sailed Antigua 1500/20 arrived and sailed St. Kitts 1800/20.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1234R/21 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/AGAMEMNON....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

AGAMEMNON.	AGAMEMNON will leave Hampden Roads 1800/24 for Halifax. (B.A.R.M., 1248R/21, to Admty etc).
EMPIRE WILDEBEESTE.	Rescue Tug PRUDENT sailed St. Johns N.F. 0231Z/21 to tow S.S. EMPIRE WILDEBEESTE reported out of fuel 092° 431 miles from Cape Race. (C.C.N.F., 1301Z/21 to Admty).
H.X.161.	ANAPOLIS, HAMILTON to Western R/V H.X.161. (S.O.(I) Halifax, 1304Z/21 to Admty etc).
ALBERNI.	N.S.H.Q.'s 1340Z/17/10 (repairs at Canadian ports). ALBERNI, Halifax, 21/11 to 6/1/1942. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1331Z/21 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
P.511 P.551.	My 1927Z/20. S.of A. will be 9 knots to position X thereafter 9 for P.511 and 10½ for P.551. (C.C.N.F., 1509Z/21 to Admty).
O.N.38.	Ocean escort O.N. 38 Task Unit Z.1.14*BURNHAM (S.O.) CHAMBLY, DAUPHIN, NAPONEE, ARVIDA, MATOPEDIA, ALGOMA. (Opnav, 1527/21 to Admty). * (?4.1.14).
QUEEN OF BERMUDA.	On completion of refit about mid-December QUEEN OF BERMUDA is to be sailed for Bermuda to embark aircraft, carry out one week's flying off trials and work up practices and then sailed to U.K. to give 21 days leave to each watch. (D.O.D. (F) 1611A/21 to B.A.R.M., C. in C. A.W.I.)
PANDORA.	Admty 1755A/11. PANDORA is expected to sail from New London for Bermuda P.M./16/12. (B.A.R.M., 1704R/21 to Admty).
SURCOUF.	A.M.1941/2 and B.A.R.M.'s 1728/19. Request you will arrange for SURCOUF to be at Halifax from 10th to 16/12 so that Adm. Muselier may have an opportunity of visiting this ship. 2. After visit SURCOUF should proceed in accordance with A.M.1941/2. (D.O.D. (F) 1711A/21 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/Adm.....

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Adm. Muselier.

Admty 1314A/13. My 1746Z/21. This action being taken so that the Admiral may have opportunity to inspect ALYSSE and also to get all three French Ships into same group.
(C.C.N.F., 1747Z/21 to Admty).

R.C.N. Corvettes.

C.C.C.S. 1300A/20. 1. Every endeavour being made to maintain 3 R.C.N. corvettes at Tobermory. Present situation is given in my 1616Z/8. BRANDON should arrive late November.
2. Have already pointed out operational impossibility at present of detaching more than 3 ships from N.E.F. at one time. Unfortunately training period got out of step due to completion refits breakdowns etc.
3. If any forecast could be given as to when the 3 ships in my 1616Z/8 will complete 3 more will promptly be detailed to replace them and carry out simultaneous training.
(C.C.N.F., 1755Z/21 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Archangel Convoys.

A.M.1153A/20 to N.A. Washington.
It seems unnecessary and for security reasons undesirable that this Most Secret information should be conveyed to U.S.S.R. Naval Command via Washington. Should it not be passed through British Naval Mission in U.S.S.R. or U.S.S.R. Mission in London?
(ii) N.A. agrees and is not giving this information to Soviet N.A. until further instructions are received.
(B.A.D., 1819R/21 to Admty) Reply: 1743/22.

S.C.57.

S.C.57 unit 4.1.11 designated escort. Ottawa Carrier Sen. Officer PRIMROSE TRAIL., POLYANTHUS, FENNEL, CHILLIWACK, ARVIDA, SHERBROOK. (C.C.N.F., 1959Z/21 to Comdr. Task Force 4)

B.Y.T's 1-5 Atlantic Passage.

Following from B.A.S.R.
Your 1712/20. Concur that North Atlantic passage is a doubtful proposition for these small ships in winter. It is considered however that if these ships are left in U.S. Ports until April there would be most unfortunate political repercussions which would probably affect our future requests under lend-lease. Proposed therefore that every effort be made to remove these vessels on completion to a British Port either for use as tugs or to be laid up.

/Halifax...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

B.Y.T.'s 1-5 Atlantic Passage. Contd.	Halifax, St. Johns, Bermuda or Trinidad would appear suitable for the purpose. Request permission for first tug to be sailed on completion with naval crew which has already been collected, the same crew returning to take delivery of subsequent vessels. If this is approved request destination of all vessels may be indicated. (B.A.D., 2005R/21, to Admty) See also 1429R/22.
SAGUENAY.	Supt. Dockyard Halifax 1351Z/22/10, regarding completion date SAGUENAY. Owing to additional work necessary on upper deck on account of oil fuel fire completion date retarded until 3/12/41. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2101Z/21 to N.S.H.Q.)
DESPATCH, LIVERPOOL, CIRCASSIA, INDOMITABLE.	For consideration that DESPATCH, LIVERPOOL and CIRCASSIA from Bermuda and INDOMITABLE, now on passage from Norfolk to Jamaica, R/V in 25° North 40° West on 28/11 and carry out sweep towards St. Pauls Rock. INDOMITABLE and LIVERPOOL are only partly worked up, but consider this might be accepted in view of accuracy of intelligence regarding enemy. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2132Q/21 to Admty).
JEANNE D'ARC.	Naval Observer reports JEANNE D'ARC will leave Guadeloupe 22/11 for Martinique to remain three or four days. (Opnav, 2300Z/21 to Admty).
Search for German Ship.	CINCINNATI reports no indications presence German ship areas searched. 1800 G.C.T. position 6° North (Probably 29°) West. Will continue search probable areas Saturday vicinity 9° North 29° West and then proceed Trinidad. JOUET has been directed to refuel Recife. (Opnav, 2330Z/21 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Rabaul, mine defences.	B.A.D. Washington's 1937/23/10 (N.T. in W.D.) Minefield should not materially affect efficiency of H.D.A. but suggest Eastern limit of minefield should be north of a line 225° from Matupi Island light. 2. A/S conditions not expected to be good in this area. Suggest principal A/S patrol should be in rear of line Sulphur Point to Raluana Point. Midway between these points detection by H.D.As. will be uncertain and might be increased by a Sono Buoy laid midway between Praed Point and Raluana Point. 3. Re proposed minefield S.W. of Matupi, see A.T. 2140/16/9 para 2 (1). (A.C.N.S. (F) 0341A/21 to A.C.N.B.)
U.S.14.	Your 0429/15. Agreed that docking proposals for QUEEN MARY and QUEEN ELIZABETH should stand. 2. Your 0645/16/10 stated that capacity for 10,000 in U.S.14 was acceptable. W.O. are considering with Army, Melbourne, whether additional 3,000 can be postponed to U.S.15. (D.S.T., 0350A/21 to A.C.N.B.)
U.S.15.	My 0920M/9/9. May date be advised for U.S. 15? New Zealand requirements are Army 2600 Mideast; R.N.Z.N., 20 East Indies, 20 China; R.N.Z.A.F. 20 Singapore, total 2660. In addition Army desires despatch middle March to Mideast new unit namely tank brigade 3600 without equipment. (N.Z.N.B., 1400M/21 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.11.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B and Raider Tactics.

From reliable reports it is known that U/Boats have been used as escorts for returning Raiders, Supply Ships or M/V's. Probable tactics, which also probably apply to French Submarine-escorted Merchant ships. U/B stationed ahead by day and close astern by night. By day U-boat can be expected to dive on ship being sighted and escorted vessel will endeavour to lead attacker on U-boat. Initial sighting course is important as if the two get separated it will be on this line of advance that the two can be expected again to R.V. In the event of being sighted by aircraft speed of escorted vessel can be expected to be reduced to that of U-boat submerged.
(A.C.N.S(F)1218A/21, "A" Message.)

Submarines Reported.

16/11. A two Submarine formation sighted near Massa Cabinda, Nov. 16th.
(C.G. Loanda 0940/21, to D.N.I. S.O. (I) Freetown, N.S.O. (I) Capetown.

Estimated approx., positions of U/Bs.
(D.D.I.C. 1406A/21.)

Submarines Attacked.

By MARIGOLD, 16/11. As B.B.C. have announced sinking of U-boat by MARIGOLD is there any objection to granting controlled interview to Gibraltar press correspondents?
(F.O.C.N.A., 1042A/21, to Admty.)
Your 1042A/21. Not approved for controlled interviews to be granted as it is desired to keep secret time and details of attack.
(D.P.D., 1409A/21, to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Soviet S/M K.21 has returned from patrol off Rolvsoy Sound and reports having torpedoed 2 vessels of 4,000 and 5,000 tons respectively on 12/11 in 70° 43' N. 24° 4' E., one of which was seen to sink.

C. in C. H.F. has today approved C.S.10's proposal of yesterday that he should act against the German Convoy Route on the Norwegian coast during the nights of 23rd and 24th November if destroyers can be kept in company with C.S.10's Force, and information as to the enemy's usual convoy procedure has been passed to C. in C. H.F. accordingly.

NELSON returned to Scapa at 1043 today and left again at 1825 for Rosyth.

BEDOUIN, INTREPID, and BRAMBLE arrived at Murmansk at 1132C today, and Convoy P.Q.3 reached Archangel at 0900C.

The Escort Trawler ST. APOLLO sank at 2230A in 59° 9' N. 7° 36' W. having collided at 1915A with SARDONYX which was damaged and proceeded to Loch Ewe (arrived 1623/23) escorted by PUNJABI, KING SOL, and the Rescue Tug MARAUDER.

Wick harbour was closed at 0945 on account of the weather.

Yarmouth was closed at 1514A on account of fog.

Enemy Air Activity.

Bombs were dropped near the oil tank at Trangisvaag (Faeroes) this morning; no naval damage was caused.

/At.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

At 0913 one A/C dropped 2 bombs at Aberdeen, causing no naval damage and no casualties; and from 1025 till 1105 another single A/C reconnoitred the Faroes, dropping 4 bombs at Transvaag, Sydero and causing slight civilian damage and no casualties.

The coaster ROCKABILL was attacked about 1600 today about 1,200 yards from Rosslare Pier Head. It is stated that the machine guns at Rosslare made no attempt to engage the aircraft.

The Norwegian BESTUM which had run ashore near the Shipwash was bombed and damaged whilst being towed to Harwich and was beached.

Convoy F.N.59 reported being attacked at 1843 in 52° 31' N. 2° 9' E. No details are known.

S.S. SKERRIES was unsuccessfully attacked at 1755 today in Tuskar Sound by 3 enemy aircraft, one of which she reports having damaged or destroyed. At 1800 B.S.T. Trawler WILLIAM BUNCE was unsuccessfully attacked by 2 aircraft in Irish territorial waters north of the Tuskar.

Mining.

2 Magnetic mines were detonated by Sweepers in the Thames Estuary today, and 2 at Harwich; and one Ground mine self-detonated off Milford Haven.

K.21 has laid mines off Hammerfest and Reimoy Sound. She reports one vessel mined off Reimoy Sound.

MOST SECRET

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Bedlam".

If MARSDALE, CORINTHIAN and HAWKINS do not intercept the ILE D'OUESSANT and ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER (see 21/11) it may be necessary to employ part of Force H to intercept them not less than 200 miles west of Casablanca. HERMIONE and the 5 destroyers of Force H are to be ready to leave Gibraltar after dark 24/11 to intercept.

Patrol by Vichy S/Ms.

It is reported that 6 Vichy French S/Ms. sailed from Casablanca last week on escort and patrol.

South Atlantic.

Raider sunk by DEVONSHIRE.

DEVONSHIRE engaged and sank a merchant ship raider thought to be GOLDENFELS (7800 tons) this morning in approx. 4° 15' S. 18° 43' W. It is believed that the vessel was engaged in fuelling a U-Boat when first sighted and for this reason DEVONSHIRE left the survivors to boats and rafts.
About the time when the engagement took place Ascension intercepted a report of an unknown warship in approximately the above position, purporting to come from S.S. POLYPHEMUS: this report was definitely not from the genuine POLYPHEMUS which was at New York at the time.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

20 Macchis approaching Malta p.m. today were intercepted by Hurricanes and badly shot up.

/Cruiser....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Cruiser torpedoed by aircraft.

V.A. Malta states that at 0050 today Swordfish and Albacores attacked a convoy, apparently that in which UTMOST torpedoed a cruiser about an hour previously. One cruiser is claimed hit and possibly also a 6,000 ton merchant ship. Wellingtons also attacked but claim no hits. The convoy was last seen about 0430 G.M.T. south of Cape Spartivento, scattered and making little progress.

TRITON.

TRITON sailed today to carry out a special operation on the south coast of Crete.

Red Sea.

C. in C. Med. is considering laying indicator loops across the entrance to the Red Sea opposite Perim, backed up by A/S patrol vessels, to prevent the entrance of enemy submarines into the Red Sea in the event of war with Japan.

East Indies.

Indications are increasing that the Vichy French in Jibuti do not intend to hold out much longer. The sound of explosions of unknown origin has been heard recently several times in the direction of Jibuti. There is said to be food for about 3 weeks.

America and West Indies.

The orders for HAWKINS, MARSDALE and CORINTHIAN (see 21/11) were altered today, and these ships and CIRCASSIA were ordered to patrol positions in the Atlantic, to intercept Axis shipping.

MOST SECRET

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

Information for NELSON. — Decode BN 718 (C. in C. W.A. 2338/21 re MANXMAN.)
(C. in C. W.A., 0058A/22 to NELSON.)

RENOWN. — Scapa arrival RENOWN.
(A.C.O.S., 0902A/22.)

Floating Crane. — C. in C. Plymouth 1736/21. Weather unsuitable.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0924/22 to BERKELEY.)
C. in C. Plymouth's 1736. In view of weather intend retaining BERKELEY, KINGSTON TOPAZ, KINGSTON CHRYSOBERYL, in Torbay until relief can be sent.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1135/22 to BERKELEY.)
(1) Cancel my 1736/21 owing to weather.
(2) BERKELEY, KINGSTON CHRYSOBERYL and KINGSTON TOPAZ are to remain with tow until 23/11.
(3) JULIET and CORIOLANUS are to pass the Gate astern of the sweepers at 0745/23 and proceed to Torbay to relieve BERKELEY, KINGSTON CHRYSOBERYL, KINGSTON TOPAZ.
(4) If weather is unsuitable to move tow.
(A) On relief BERKELEY to proceed to Plymouth KINGSTON CHRYSOBERYL and KINGSTON TOPAZ to Dartmouth to fuel.
(B) N.O.I.C. Dartmouth is requested to sail KINGSTON CHRYSOBERYL and KINGSTON TOPAZ to Portsmouth by night.
(5) If weather is suitable (C) BERKELEY is to proceed with trawlers and tow to Dartmouth a.m./23rd. (D) BERKELEY to leave tow at entrance to Dartmouth and proceed to Weymouth.
Trawler to Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1352/22 to BERKELEY.)

MINERVE. — My 1543A/21. Sailing delayed 24 hours.
(Capt. S.9, 1035A/22.)
My 1606A/21. Cancel para. G.
(F.O.S., 1053A/22.)

RAMILLIES.
NELSON. — Scapa arrivals 1024 RAMILLIES, VANQUISHER, WITCH. 1043 NELSON, ICARUS, FAULKNOR.
(A.C.O.S., 1105A/22.)
Scapa departures NELSON, FAULKNOR, and ICARUS.
(A.C.O.S., 1825A/22.)
NELSON proceed passing Hoxa Gate at 1830A/22 to arrive off May Island at 0900A/23. R.A.D. is requested to sail escorts accordingly.
(V.A.2, 1408A/22 to R.A.D.)

/FAULKNOR....

MOST SECRET

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

RAMILLIES.
NELSON.
(Contd.)

FAULKNOR and ICARUS proceed passing Switha at 1815/22 to R/V with NELSON outside Hoxa Gate at 1830 and then escort her to Rosyth arriving May Island 0900/23.
(ii) ECLIPSE, E.T.A. Duncansby Head 1900/22, (? with) EREBUS and CHIDDINGFOLD is to be detached to join NELSON and her escort.
(iii) On arrival Rosyth FAULKNOR, ICARUS and ECLIPSE return to Scapa.
(R.A.D. H.F., 1545A/22.)

BEDOUIN,
INTREPID,
BRAMBLE.

BEDOUIN, INTREPID, BRAMBLE arrived.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1132C/22.)

ESPERANCE BAY.

Admiralty 1815A/16 para. 3.
Intend to sail ESPERANCE BAY escorted by WANDERER for Clyde at 0830/27.
WANDERER will carry out S.A. sweeping ahead while on passage. Estimated speed of advance 15 knots and E.T.A. Clyde p.m./30th.
(C. in C. Nore, 1206A/20.)

CILICIA.

My 1653A/19 and my 0943A/20. Sailing delayed by 24 hours due to weather.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1220A/22.)

WASTWATER,
SOUTHERN FLOWER.

Your 2300/20. Both vessels 26/11.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1250/22.)

NESTOR.

Your 1153/11. Request confirmation that NESTOR will be ready to leave Plymouth on 2/12.
2. Ship is urgently required for escort duty on passage to her station leaving Clyde on 6/12.
3. This will allow 2 or 3 days for working up provided date in para. 1 is confirmed. A longer period is not considered necessary.
(D.O.D. H., 1318A/22 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

H.43.

Sailed S/M H.43 escorted by HILDASAY.
(WESTERN ISLES, 1505A/22.)

RORQUAL.

CUTTY SARK in 250° Trevose 10' at 1543.
RORQUAL 265° Bude 9' at 1550, course north-easterly.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1624/22.)

/SEAGULL....

MOST SECRET

0

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

SEAGULL, SPEEDY. — SEAGULL and SPEEDY sailed for Murmansk at 1800. All passengers disembarked into icebreaker. Ice permitting, intend fuelling from Bug tomorrow. Convoy has proceeded up river. (GOSSAMER, 1657C/22 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

DANEMAN. — Take NOTTS COUNTY under your orders and sail to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1137A/22. (Capt. D. Greenock, 1704/22 to DANEMAN.)

BROADWAY. — Position 055° 20' N. 009° 25' W. (BROADWAY, 1730Z/22.)

EREBUS. — Scapa arrivals EREBUS and CHIDDINGFOLD. (A.C.O.S., 1925A/22.) My 1545/21. Add CHIDDINGFOLD and ECLIPSE leave Scapa 0300/22 to R/V EREBUS at daylight/22. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2251/22.)

ECLIPSE. — Return to Scapa. (NELSON, 2056/22 to ECLIPSE.)

HAWKINS. — Admiralty 1219A/21. Request following route up Channel may be given. Request ship be instructed to adjust speed so as to arrive at Needles at 1600 and that fighter escort will be requested on the assumption that HAWKINS passes through 180° Lizard 5 at 0730. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2244/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

COTSWOLD. — Proceed to Harwich at daylight. (C. in C. Nore, 2327A/22 to COTSWOLD.)

Operations.

C.S.10. — C.S. 10's 1844Z/21. Approved if destroyers can be in company. Admiralty please pass latest information. (ii) Admiralty pass to North Russia. (C. in C. H.F., 1050Z/22 to C.S.10.)

E-Boat engagements on night 19/20. — Their Lordships congratulate you and all concerned on the spirited action which developed around the convoy on the night of 19th/20th Nov. and resulted in the defeat of the enemy's E-Boats with heavy losses. (1st Lord, 1106A/22 to C. in C. Nore.)

/FORESIGHT....

MOST SECRET

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

FORESIGHT, FURY. — Your 1938A/20 (Enemy ship making for Biscay port). At 0900A/24 FURY who has least endurance will have four days fuel remaining for 13 knots (3 corrupt groups) remaining. All three ships will require provisions. (FORESIGHT, 1617Z/22 to Admty.)

NORFOLK, KENT. — My 1833Z/18. NORFOLK is to leave patrol at 1600Z/23 and proceed Hvalfjord.
(ii) KENT is to sail from Hvalfjord at 1300Z/23 to replace NORFOLK on patrol route through position 062° N. 012° W.
(C. in C. H.F., 1641A/22.)
My 1641A/22. For "012° W." read "022° W.".
(C. in C. H.F., 1026N/23 to KENT.)

SEAWOLF Patrol. — Withdraw to the north of 71° N. keeping within limits of zone 5 from 1200C/24th until 1200C/25. No attack is to be made on surface warships sighted during this period. Admiralty pass to SEAWOLF.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2309C/22 to SEAWOLF.)

K.21 Patrol. One M/V sunk. One M/V torpedoed. One M/V mined. — Soviet K.21 returned from successful patrol of Rolvsoy (? sound). 2 vessels 4000-5000 tons torpedoed in vicinity 70° 43' N. 24° 04' E. westbound on 12/11. One seen to sink. One vessel mined Rei(?moy) Sound.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2341C/22.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Aberdeen bombed. — At 0913/22 aircraft, believed Junkers 88, dropped two bombs one of which did not explode in vicinity of Beach Pavilion. Ships and Harbour defences opened fire with negative results. No naval damage and no casualties.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1150/22.)

Faroes bombed. — My T.O.D. 1042. From 1025 to 1105 today single A/C reconnoitred Transvaag Sydero and dropped 4 bombs. Slight damage to civilian property. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1552/22.)

Convoy F.N.59. — Enemy aircraft attacking "Casing" in 52° 31' N. 2° 9' E.
(Rosyth, 1843/22.)

/BESTUM.....

MOST SECRET

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

BESTUM (Norwegian, 2684 tons) sunk.	Norwegian ship BESTUM sunk by near miss vicinity Platters. Pilot reports wreck to southward of channel. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2112A/22.)

Mining.

Minelaying programme.	Admiralty's 1552A/16 para. (V). Before submitting proposals to Admiralty concerning minelaying to be done I should be glad of your views and any proposals you may wish to make. (C. in C. Nore, 1104A/22 to V.A. Dover.)
Thames Estuary.	One magnetic mine detonated at 0918/22 in 38° B.4 Buoy 1.3 miles. Details. (Capt, M/S. Sheerness, 1606/22.) One S.A. mine detonated at 1344/22 in 222° Nore L.V. 7½ cables. Details. (Capt. M./S. Sheerness, 1645/22.)
Harwich.	1 Red and 1 Blue mine detonated at 1525 in 51° 47" N. 01° 28.9 E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1702A/22.)
Milford Haven.	Ground mine self-detonated in 101° St. Anns Head light 12.75 cables at 1540A/22. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1817/22 and 1115/23.)
Hammerfest and Reimoy Sound.	10 mines laid off Hammerfest and 10 in Reimoy Sound by Russian S/M K.21. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 23410/22.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Convoy Routes.	C.S.10's 1844Z/21. Shipping movements adhere to no routine. Convoys still frequently anchor for some hours during the night. Route followed is normal Inner Load route, except that convoys appear to pass through Fugloy Sund and North of Loppen Island (70° 20' N. 21° 25' E.) (D.D.I.C., 2019A/22 to C. in C. H.F.) Passed to C.S.10 with T.O.O. 0210/23.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Wick. Wick harbour closed. Weather.
(R.N.O. Wick, 0945/22.)

Lowestoft. My 1743A/21. Port now open for Coastal Force and similar craft only.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 1109A/22.)

Yarmouth. Port closed owing to fog.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1514A/21.)

My 1109A/22. Port now closed completely through movement of wreck. Salvage Officer making attempt to slew wreck p.m. tomorrow sufficient for passage of coastal force craft.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 1810A/22.)

Varne Buoys. N.E. Varne Buoy light extinguished.
S. Varne Light Buoy now flashing every 10 seconds. Request Q.Z.H.
(V.A. Dover, 1914A/22.)
N.E. Varne light-buoy light extinguished.
(Hydrog., 2211A/22.)
S. Varne light-buoy light irregular.
(Hydrog., 2212A/22.)

Technical.

Enemy Air Attacks. Your 1641/17. Reply as to character of Enemy Flak Fire on unseen targets and our methods of defence against A/C attacks on ships.
(D.N.I., 1447A/22 to Ad. Miles, Kuibyshev.)
See Lion Copy.

R/T sets for M/Vs. See Shipping.

Interception of Enemy A/C by Night Fighters. Your 0114A/19. Consider that answer to this problem can best be arrived at if you deal direct with Fighter Groups.
2. Suggest as basis for trial that escorts should in similar cases broadcast reports of shadowing aircraft on 385 k/cs. for the benefit of the Fighter Group concerned, breaking W/T silence being accepted as position of convoy is presumably already known.
It should be unnecessary for the escort to report the position of the convoy as this should be known from the plot.
(A.C.N.S. T., 1959A/22 to C. in C. Nore.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

BESTUM

WINCHESTER's 2243A/21 (N.T. in W.D.) SHERWOOD now afloat and anchored, KENIA standing by. Round up 10 stragglers in vicinity 54A Buoy and rejoin convoy. KITTIWAKE sails from Harwich at 1st light to assist you.
(C. in C. Nore, 0359A/22 to WOOLSTON.)
Your 0445. Ship is (LEGA) BESTUM. No other ship aground.
(WOOLSTON, 1029A/22 to C. in C. Nore.)

KING SOL (Escort Trawler)

Making water, unable to steam, request immediate assistance. Position 059° 07' N. 008° 16' W.
(KING SOL, 0645A/22.)
Sail MARAUDER with all despatch to KING SOL.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0805A/22 to Stornoway.)
My 0650. Ship (sinking ?).
(KING SOL, 0830A/22.)
Sailed MARAUDER.
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 0846A/22.)
A destroyer is to be detached forthwith to assistance of KING SOL reported sinking.
(C. in C. W.A., 0916A/22 to ROCKINGHAM.)
Your 0916A. Proceeding full speed from position 062°, buoy 2.5.
(SARDONYX, 0951A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 0916A/22.
Expect to pass through position of KING SOL at 1700A/22.
(PUNJABI, 1051A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)
Holding water, steaming slow speed on course 116°.
(KING SOL, 1215/22.)
KING SOL reports his position 059° 06' N. 008° 08' W. doubtful at 1410, course 116°, slow speed. Am in Radio Telephony communication and snaking his course from five miles astern.
Illuminants being used.
(SARDONYX, 1440A/22 to ROCKINGHAM, MARAUDER.)
KING SOL reports his speed six knots from 1500.
(SARDONYX, 1525A/22.)
Escorting KING SOL, MARAUDER standing by. KING SOL reports water under (? control), pump not working, nobody injured. Can do 6 knots.
My P.C.S. 059° 16' N. (? 007°) 50' W., 132°, 6 knots.
(SARDONYX, 1811A/22.)

BINTANG.

S.S. BINTANG suffering severe gale damage. Life boat carried away, hatch stove in, position 058° 41' N. 008° 48' W. Am escorting her to Minches.
(ST. APOLLO, 0950A/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

/EMPIRE.....

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

EMPIRE DORADO.

EMPIRE DORADO sank at 0944A/22 after being in tow 24 hours.
Proceeding with HIBISCUS, course 105°, 13 knots.
(VOLUNTEER, 0959A/22.)

CAMEO.

Trawler L'ATLANTIQUE is being sailed from Campbeltown to take S.S. CAMEO in tow. No tugs immediately available.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1119A/22 to HEEMSKIRK.)
Please inform when tug can be expected.
(HEEMSKIRK, 1350/22 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
Your 1350/22. No tug available.
L'ATLANTIQUE sailed from Campbeltown to position 3 miles E. of Garron Point at 1407.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1435A/22 to HEEMSKIRK.)
Proceed forthwith and with despatch to assist S.S. CAMEO in position 3 miles to the eastward of Garron Point, Ireland. HEEMSKIRK and L'ATLANTIQUE standing by acknowledge.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1525A/22 to FRISKY.)
Arrived HEEMSKIRK.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2118A/22.)
S.S. CAMEO is in tow of Trawler L'ATLANTIQUE steering for Belfast Lough. Attempt to make contact.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2139A/22 to FRISKY.)

RAMSAY.

Your 2219A/19. RAMSAY repairs now in hand expect to be completed on 27th Nov. then able to proceed under own steam.
(N.C.S.O. Cork, 1221/22.)

KRAKOWIAK.

Following received from KRAKOWIAK begins.
Regret to report part of forecastle deck plating has been lifted. Consider I must return to Harbour. 1400/22 Ends.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1459/22.)
My 1459/22. Temporary repairs are being effected to make vessel seaworthy and will be completed a.m./25th.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1837/22.)

WIDGEON (Damaged 20/11.)

Anchor berth for tonight Dunnet Head 150° eastern extremity of pier head 3 cables.
(C. in C. Nore, 1501A/22 to WIDGEON.)
Southend arrival from Harwich WIDGEON for onward passage to Tilbury.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1631A/22.)

/BELMONT.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

BELMONT. Cylinder cover to steering engine has been forced off. Cover and piston distorted and three studs fractured. Am proceeding Clyde at 20 knots in hand steering. E.T.A. 0100A/23. Consider repairs will take at least 7 hours. (BELMONT, 1541A/22.)

RUGELEY (Grounded 20/11.) Attempts to refloat S.S. RUGELEY aground between Forland Point and Ardrossan have failed. Liverpool and Glasgow Salvage Company have taken over and will lighten vessel preparatory to further attempt. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1653A/22.)

ROSS. My 2056/20. Sailing postponed. Trials unsatisfactory. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1654/22.)

GARTH (Damaged 20/11.) Sheerness for Chatham arrival GARTH at 1624. (C. in C. Nore, 1700A/22.)

KORVIT. My 1636/22. Barge has been picked up by MAY and is being towed into Forth. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1746/22.)

VANCOUVER ISLAND. Reference: Enquiry made by Casualty Section to N.C.S.O. Mersey regarding loss of VANCOUVER ISLAND. It transpires that no ships in fact were sent to her assistance vide C.C.N.F's 1536Z/22/10 and 1458Z/25/10. CHAMBLY's report of proceedings giving fuller explanation of latter is being forwarded. It is regretted that only information regarding VANCOUVER ISLAND is the finding by AGASSIZ of unidentifiable dead bodies of two of her Officers in ship's boat on 3rd October in 56° 08' N. 20° 45' W. (C. in C. W.A., 1813A/22 to Admty.)

ST. APOLLO (Escort Trawler) sunk. SARDONYX damaged. SARDONYX in collision with ST. APOLLO at 1848A/22 in (? 046°) 12' N. 007° 42' W. ST. APOLLO afloat, SARDONYX fore peak and lower store flooded. Tug MARAUDER, trawler KING SOL standing by. (SARDONYX, 1915A/22.) Following received from unknown ship begins: Have collided with SARDONYX. Both sinking in 58° 40' N. 7° 40' W. 1910. Ends. (C. in C. W.A., 1926A/22 to ROCKINGHAM, PUNJABI.)

/Proceed.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 22.11.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

ST. APOLLO (Escort Trawler) sunk. SARDONYX damaged. (Contd.)

Proceed with utmost despatch to assist SARDONYX and ST. APOLLO damaged in collision in 58° 40' N. 07° 40' W.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1945A/22 to MARAUDER.)
C. in C. W.A. 1926A/22. My position at 2000, 059° 01' N. 006° 55' W. SARDONYX last seen in position (? 10 or 4) miles 296° from me 1745 course (? 061°, 116° or 047°). Am sweeping towards that position.
(PUNJABI, 2004A/22.)
MARAUDER has about 45 survivors from ST. APOLLO. ROCKINGHAM, SARDONYX, MARAUDER, KING SOL still searching. SARDONYX flooded to 10 bulkhead and fore lower store. No immediate danger. Capable of 5 knots, proceeding for Loch Ewe at 2130A.
(SARDONYX, 2115A/22.)
w.a. W.A. (?C) 1 part 104. ST. APOLLO ?(sunk) in position 059° 09' N. 007° 36' W. after colliding SARDONYX.
(a) None. (b) 35. 5 missing. All survivors in MARAUDER. (c) 3 day. (d) Sank. MARAUDER alongside ST. APOLLO as she sank. 5 missing were in ship when she foundered. Depth charges exploded shortly after ship sank. Am searching for missing. PUNJABI escort SARDONYX, KING SOL, MARAUDER.
(ROCKINGHAM, 2230A/22.)

Shipping and Convoys.

F.N.58.

F.N. No.58 anchored in thick fog in vicinity of number 8 buoy.
(WOLSEY, 0135A/22.)

RANGITATA, HURWORTH.

Sailed HURWORTH to comply N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1618A/21.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0156A/22.)
Arrival RANGITATA escorted by HURWORTH.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1904A/22.)

O.N.38.

O.N.38 dispersed by gale, AMAZON and 2 Merchant ships in company. My position 059° 18' N. 009° 55' W. proceeding towards noon R/V. CAPE WARWICK has reported 4 ships in company south of position.
(FOXHOUND, 0955A/22.)

H.X.160.

Request you will not sail any M.V's to join H.X.160 as M.O.M.P. is so far west,
(C. in C. W.A., 1003A/22 to A.C.I.C.)

/D.S.17.....

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

D.S.17. BRIGHTON and NEWARK detailed for D.S.17.
(R.A.M., 1109/22.)

H.X.158. Many congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. all the ships of your convoy H.X.158.
(C. in C. W.A., 1131A/22 to Capt. B.W.L. Nicholson, R.N.)

P.Q.3. Convoy P.Q.3 arrived 0900C/22.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1200/22.)
Is anything known as to whether CAPE CORSO straggled from P.Q.3.
(D.T.D., 1316A/22 to A.C.I.C.)

S.C.53. Request ZWARTE ZEE join convoy in case THEOMITOR who is damaged forward requires assistance.
My P.C.S. are 056° 42' N. 013° W., 108°, 7½.
(VANOC, 1402/22.)
Cancel my 1432A/22. SKATE is to return to Londonderry and ZWARTE ZEE is to join convoy S.C.53 and stand by S.S. THEOMITOR.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1529A/22.)
Your 1529A. At 1800A P.C.S. were 056° 47' N. 014° 49' W., 108°, 13½ knots. Expect to join convoy a.m. tomorrow.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 1830A/22 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

D/F Guards. Merchant Ship H/F, D/F and M/F, D/F guards are being supplied with R/T sets for passing D/F bearings to Commodore and S.O. Escort.
2. They are given standing instructions to break R/T silence and on bearings by R/T when it is certain the bearings are of U-Boats in the vicinity of the convoy.
S.O's of escorts are to modify these instructions to meet circumstances as they arise. For example instructions to break R/T silence to report bearings of believed U-Boats should normally be given when information indicates that the convoy is being shadowed and cancelled if the U-Boats appears to have been shaken off.
(C. in C. W.A., 1641A/22.)

Atlantic Convoys. Your 1755R/20. Agree that plans should be progressed for assembling Convoys at New York and Hampton Roads. But prefer not to amend existing organisation at present. Reasons.
(V.C.N.S., 1737A/22 to B.A.D. Washington.)
See Lion Copy.

/White.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

White Sea. Nets in Approaches. — Cancel A.M. 1935A/25/10. (D. of L.D., 1833A/22.)

M/V's to move at night. — In the past Masters of some M/V's have refused to move at night. Have therefore given written instructions that they must move at night if necessary. Shortness of days and limited number of icebreakers make this essential. Consider risk very slight indeed. (ii) Request Masters of M/V's proceeding Archangel may be given similar instructions before leaving U.K. or Iceland. Admiralty pass to Admiral Miles. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1855C/22 to Admty.)

W.S.14. — Sailing of Convoy W.S.14 is now being arranged for 6/12.
2. CILICIA will form part of the ocean escort from Clyde.
3. Ships addressed should adjust programme accordingly.
4. RAMILLIES will be required to leave Clyde a.m./6/12 to join Convoy after fuelling at Milford Haven.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2017A/22.)

S.C.53. H.X.159. — Estimate S.C.53 may meet ships of H.X.159 which has been scattered and is probably in 2 parts about 0800A tomorrow.
(C. in C. W.A., 2152A/22.)

C.T.7. — My 1504A/19. Sailed less GLENARTNEY.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2254A/22.)
My 2142A/17 and N.O.i/c. Greenock's 1504A/19. Owing to defects BELMONT sail SHERWOOD to R/V with Convoy C.T.7 escorted by GARLAND at 0900A/23, in position 270° Oversay 6 miles. SHERWOOD is to proceed with convoy to Halifax.
(C. in C. W.A., 2202A/22.)
Sailed convoy C.T.7. PASTEUR escorted by BELMONT, GARLAND for Halifax routed as in Admiralty 2003A/18. Also included LANARKSHIRE for Panama breaking off in position (f) and WAIPAWA for Bermuda breaking off in 35° W.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2256A/22.)

MOST SECRET.

0

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Bedlam".

If MARSDALE, CORINTHIAN and HAWKINS do not intercept French ships ILE D'OUESSANT and ILE DE NOIR MOUTIER it may be necessary to employ part of your Force to intercept not less than 200 miles to westward of Casablanca.
2. It is considered that HERMIONE and your 5 destroyers would form the most suitable force, accepting the temporary immobilisation of MALAYA and ARGUS.
3. Request you will prepare to carry out this operation, force being ready to leave Gibraltar after dark 24/11. Final decision will be given not later than 1900Z/24.
4. "Ration" is not to be carried out unless specifically ordered.
5. Reputed speeds of ships are 11½ and 9 knots, but they have previously made the passage at 7½ knots. When intercepted they should if fuel permits be sent with prize crews to Bermuda or other-wise to Gibraltar. (V.C.N.S. 0036A/22 to F.O. Force H.)
A.M. 0036A/22. Code name for operation is "Bedlam". (D.O.D. (F) 0101A/22 to F.O. Force H)

A/S Training.

Your 1710/17. Regretted that a non-operational submarine can not yet be spared for Gibraltar. Opportunity may be taken to carry out A/S exercises with the submarines referred to in F.O. (S) 1902/12. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0051A/22 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MARSDALE.

Pass Admty. 1439/21 and 1701/21 and your 0602A/21 to F.O. Force H. (D.O.D. (F) 0055A/22 to F.O.C.N.A.)

FORMIGNY (French)

FORMIGNY arrived here 11/11 from Oran and Haugesund with 3500 tons sulphate ammonia. She is now loading 528 tons sugar and about 1,000 empty casks transhipped from Danish S.S. NANCY lying here since 1/3. Armament of NANCY including one 90 mm. gun one machine gun some ammunition and small arms is also being transferred to FORMIGNY. Reported destination on sailing is Oran and departure will be reported. Consul General. (Consul-General, Lisbon, 1039/22 to M.E.W. V.A.C.N.A., 1242A/23 to Admty.)

Gibraltar Intelligence Area.

Your 1900A/15. Concur with proposals in C. in C. Med. 1204B/20, but as Force H and North Atlantic S/Ms operate to eastward of dividing line essential that Intelligence from all sources including air photographs should be available at Gibraltar.
(ii) This will necessitate some increase of staff as reported in my 2246A/17 to Admty. (F.O.C.N.A. 1102A/22 to Admty.)

/PETITE.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

PETITE ANNIE (Vichy) (intercepted 21/11)

My 2230A/21. (N.T. in W.D.) In Company with PETITE ANNIK (? ANNIE) position 333 S.T.V. 20. Ship has sprung a leak but is not in danger. Weather not suitable for towing tonight. Present speed about 5 knots. (SCOTTISH, 2000A/22 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French S/M's.

Following report received dated 19/11 graded A.2:- French Submarines AURORE, LE TONNANT, ARETHUSE, LE CONQUERANT, LA VESTALE, LA PSYSCHE sailed during the last week from Casablanca on escort and patrol. (D.D.I.C. 2216A/22 to F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force H., C. in C. S.A.)

ARGUS.

Ramp on forward end of supplementary deck of ARGUS which covers accelerator seriously interferes with flying by (A) reducing available take off run (B) limiting number of aircraft in one range in light wind (C) damaging aircraft which fails to be airborne in take off run. Propose ramp and portion of accelerator gear projecting above flight deck be removed. Accelerator has no operational values. Estimated time required 5 days. (S.O. Force H., 2155A/22 to Admty.) Approved: 1934A/24.

South Atlantic.

Raider Intercepted by DEVONSHIRE.

At 1054/22 DEVONSHIRE engaged an enemy M/V about 800' S.S.W. of Freetown. Enemy was quickly set on fire and after 11 minutes her magazine blew up. She sank 13 minutes later at 1118/22. DEVONSHIRE is of opinion that ship was German merchant raider GOLDENFELS, 7800 tons. (D.O.R., 23/11).

Position.

One Unknown Merchant Vessel bearing 178° 11 miles course 180° position 5° 58' S., 18° 29' W. obtained from fix within half an hour of 0600. (DEVONSHIRE, 0838N/22 to Freetown W/T.)

/Ship.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Raider Intercepted by DEVONSHIRE-Contd.

Ship Engaged.	Am engaging merchant ship. (DEVONSHIRE, 1054Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.)
Blown up.	Enemy ship is on fire and magazine has exploded. Request destroyers may be sent to pick up survivors. (DEVONSHIRE, 1105Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.)
Survivors.	Your 1105/22. No destroyers are available. Give survivors raft. DEVONSHIRE search to westward. Return to position of survivors early tomorrow Sunday and report situation. Approximately how many survivors. (C. in C. S.A., 1106N/22 to DEVONSHIRE).
Ship sunk.	My 1104Z. Ship has (? now) sunk. (DEVONSHIRE, 1118Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.)
Raider 16 (?) Probable U/B.	(i) My 1004Z/22. After interrogation of (? air) observer am convinced ship was (? raider) number 16. She was probably fuelling a U-boat when (? sighted). Lifeboats and rafts are in 004° 13' S. 018° 43' W. (ii) Your 1938N/21. Am proceeding through 004° 20' S. 021°. (?49') W. S. of A. 21 knots. No damage or casualties but one shaft (?is) out of action owing to (?firings). Percentage of fuel remaining 40%. (Weather). (DEVONSHIRE 1201Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.) My 1201Z. Raider when sighted was head to wind. On going ahead she cast adrift a boat (corrupt group) of oil drums. 2 large patches of oil were close alongside. Her manoeuvres kept her within 5000 yards of her initial position. She made a most efficient C.S. smoke screen but did not return my fire. Owing to above I did not close the boats. (DEVONSHIRE 1250Z/22).
Survivors.	Your 1106/22. About 150 to 200 survivors. (DEVONSHIRE, 1301Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.)
DEVONSHIRE not to close survivors.	Your 1106/22. In view of para 1 of DEVONSHIRE's 1201/22 she is not to close position of lifeboats and rafts. Send a small craft to rescue survivors. (1st S.L. 2324A/22 to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

General.

POLYPHEMUS "R" Report (suspicious)

C. in C. South Atlantic 0951N/22 asking immediate information of Dutch ship POLYPHEMUS. Last information this centre sailed Colon 22/10 for New York. (S.O.I. Kingston 0841R/22 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
Where is Dutch ship POLYPHEMUS?
(C. in C. S.A. 0951N/22 to S.O.I. Kingston, Jamaica).
Following intercepted message on approx. 12700 K/Cs per second at 0954Z. POLYPHEMUS Series R stop unknown warship position 4° 20' S. 18° 35' W. (O.I.C. Ascension 0957Z/22 to C. in C. S.A.)
Your 0951/22. Raider report was definitely not from genuine POLYPHEMUS. (V.C.N.S. 1530A/22 to C. in C. S.A.)

93 M/S Group.

My 2151N/9. MAPLE, ST. MINVER, REDWOOD sailed crews having been made up from GENERAL BIRDWOOD still suffering from defect. S.O. of group from S.A. Station in REDWOOD. I am afraid they are very (? sick) vessels. (C. in C. S.A. 1311N/22 to C. in C. Med.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

Request you will obtain from ROYAL SOVEREIGN on arrival details of fuel consumption on passage and estimated endurance at any speeds for which ship has been able to obtain data, also fuel remaining. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1324A/22 to C. in C. S.A.)

WILD SWAN.

F.O.C.N.A. 0840A/21. From (Z) pass through new position (p) 014° 45' N. 019° 30' W. thence to Bathurst. (C. in C. S.A., 1407N/22 to WILD SWAN).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Vichy Policy. Weygand's office has been replaced by a secretariat under direct control of Darlan. Full implications of situation cannot at present be assessed. Possibility in my 1252A/21 cannot be excluded. It appears improbable that the Germans at present have sufficient forces available in the West to move into unoccupied France against the will of Vichy or to move into Spain. There is no evidence yet that they are prepared to launch an expedition by sea against North Africa. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0001A/22 to C. in C. Med., etc.)

UNBEATEN. Unless otherwise ordered by Capt. (S) 1 proceed through 033° 15' 015° 35' to patrol in 032° 55' 014° 20'. ? At present rate of 15 knots convoy may be expected on approx. course 260° afternoon 23/11. (Capt. S.10, 0015B/22 to UNBEATEN).

Free French Vedettes, Command. Following is translation of telegram from High Commissioner, Brazzaville, referring to telegram from F.N.F.L. Pointe Noire to Adm. Comd. F.N.F.L. London.
(Begins) Mission has requested that L'Enseigne de Vaisseau A.G. Sabourel, formerly commissioned as Lieut. de Vaisseau Cmdg. COMMISSAIRE RAMEL, should be appointed C.O. of light patrol vessels consisting of two "vedettes" taken away from Jibouti. I request your orders. (Ends).
2. It is not known if A.T. 1215A/5/11 refers to these craft.
3. Request information including particulars of craft. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0043/22 to C. in C. Med.)

Enemy Convoy. P.S. SOKOL reports 1 destroyer 3 merchant vessels P.C. and S. 036° 33' 021° 35' 230° 10 knots at 2340B/21. (Capt. S.1., 0125B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

SOKOL, attack on enemy convoy. Your 2340B/21, well done again. Remain in vicinity of Navarin. (Capt. S.1, 0127B/22 to SOKOL).

MAURETANIA. Your 0935/20. Request report of reason for delay observing that vessel is due to arrive Suez 26/11. (D.S.T. 0320A/22 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

Libya. Military Situation midday 21/11. (C. in C. M.E., 0350/22 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

/Turkey.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

Turkey. Re staff talks and R/C parties. Urgency and seriousness of Turkish delay. (C. in C. M.E. 0410/22, 0500/22 to W.O.) Construction of Arada-Diarkebir Railway. (W.O. 1930/22 to C's in C.). See Lion Copy.

A/C attack on Convoy. Enemy convoy attacked by Air in 037° 36' 016° (?36') at 0423B/22. Approx. course and speed 100° 9 knots. (Capt. S.10, 0602B/22 to S/M's on Patrol).

Enemy Convoy attacked by UTMOST and A/C. Convoy attacked night 21/22.
(a) A.S.V. Wellington saw terrific explosion at 2311B/21 in 037° 52' N. 015° 30' E. Ship stopped, destroyer circling sea covered with oil. This presumed UTMOST's attack.
(b) Swordfish and Albacores attacked 0050/22. Claimed one hit on cruiser, possibly one on 6,000 ton merchant ship.
(c) Wellingtons attack, no hits claimed.
(d) Convoy last seen about 0430B south of Cape Spartivento scattered and making little progress.
(e) Further details after R/C to-day.
(V.A. Malta, 0840B/22 to C. in C. Med. amended 1125B/22).

Cruiser Hit by UTMOST 21/11. Your 2323B/21. Hearty congratulations. Continue in present patrol position.
(Capt. S.1., 0903B/22 to UTMOST).

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 1 enemy destroyer and 1 M.V. 36° 44' N. 21° 00' E. 330° (? 10).
(A/C C. 0905B/22 to Hal Far)
P.C. and S. of 3 enemy destroyers 2 M.Vs. and 1 A/C 39.27 N., 18.15 E. 305° 5. (Med. A/C E. 0940/22 to Hal Far).
My 0905, enemy previously reported is liner 5500. (A/C C. 0945/22 to Hal Far).
P.C. and S. of enemy 2 Cruisers 3 Destroyers, 1 M.V. ? 39.00 N., 17.24 E'. 360°, 13.
(Med. A/C E. 1030B/22 to Hal Far).

Fleet Movements. Arrivals 21/11 FARNDALE, HEYTHROP, AVONVALE, ERIDGE. Departures 21/11, HYACINTH, MOY, SOUTHERN MAID, THORGRIM. Arrivals 22/11 QUEEN ELIZABETH, VALIANT, KIMBERLEY, NIZAM, AJAX, KANDAHAR, DECOY, JERVIS, KIPLING, HOBART, ST ISSEY, BARHAM, KINGSTON, NAPIER, JACKAL, NEPTUNE, PROTEA, SOUTHERN ISLE. (S.O.I. Alexandria, 1122B/22 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

/A/S.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.11.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

A/S defence, Red Sea. In event of war with Japan enemy submarines operating in Red Sea would be a very serious threat to Middle East communications. This can best be countered by preventing their entry into Red Sea. Suggest indicator loops across entrance to Red Sea opposite Perim. Request information as to greatest depth at which they can possibly function. Deep loops would be backed up by A/S patrol vessel. (C. in C. Med., 1124B/22 to Admty.)

URGE R. of P. (1) URGE reports at 0230/10 in 037° 10' 018° 00' sighted Hospital Ship searching for survivors. (2) At 1302/17 in 037° 57' 019° 47' fired 3 torpedoes at rearship of convoy consisting of 2 laden southbound 3500-ton M.V.s escorted by one destroyer, range 5500 yards, missed. 1450 sighted 6 Blenheims eastbound who were heard to attack at about 1520. (Capt. S.10., 1205B/22 to Capt. S.1).

GLENROY. "Aggression". GLENROY escorted by 3 HUNT destroyers is to sail (? Alexandria) A.M./23. (C. in C. Med., 1208B/22 to all concerned in "Aggression"). My 1208B/22. R.A. Alexandria 1320B/21. Take 7th D.F. and HASTY under your orders and proceed to carry out A/S sweep ahead of GLENROY. Destroyers should keep at least 30 miles ahead GLENROY until dusk/23 and then carry out thorough search in approach route to Tobruk, and return Alexandria sweeping ahead GLENROY. Your object throughout is security of GLENROY. (C. in C. Med., 1232B/22 to Capt. (D) 7th D.F.)

Gazala, Bardia bombed. Night 20/21 Nov. 32 Wellingtons bombed Gazala and Satellite landing grounds starting fires. 1 F.A.A. Albacore bombed M.T. within Bardia defences with good results. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1248/22).

Operation "Landmark". "Landmark" returned. (ii) No idea that convoy was sighted during daylight 21/11 but several enemy R/C's were in position to do so. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1325/22 to C. in C. Med.)

U/B. My 2332B/21. One U-boat sighted in 035° 42' 026° 40' at 1205B/22 course 200°. Dived on sighting and continued on previous course. (Capt. S.1, 1343B/22 to TRIUMPH).
My 1343B/22. If nothing sighted by dawn/23 carry out your special operation and proceed in executing previous orders. (Capt. S.1, 1951/22 to TRIUMPH).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Enemy Cruiser. (?One) cruiser 036° 39' 019° 27' (corrupt group) 100° 18 knots. (UPRIGHT, 1400B/22 to Capt. S.10).

Destroyers for Turkey. Following from Adm. Kelly. Admty. 2011A/19. Crews may be landed in uniform. They will be given an official lunch or dinner and can then leave by train or lorry for Syria. The other alternative ways of repatriating crews are by merchant vessels whose departure would certainly be reported to enemy, or by man of war. Which method shall I work for? (N.A. Angora, 1432B/22 to Admty.)

TRITON. TRITON sails 1600B today routed from end of searched channel to 034° 40' 025° 56' (? thence) as necessary carrying out special operation on south coast of Crete. (Capt. S.1., 1545B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

TONELINE. GIBEL KEBIR. TONELINE arrived 0430/22. TONELINE discharged 14 tons M.T. cases 32 lengths piping. GIBEL KEBIR loaded 51 tons stores. (S.T.O. Tobruk 1800B/22 to D. of S.T.)
Army attach great importance to getting aviation spirit into Tobruk. Please signal situation regarding TONELINE. (N.L.O. 8th Army 2015B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

Malta Raids. 21/11. 1514 hours, 17 Macchi 202's approached very high. Hurricanes intercepted scoring hits. Results unobserved. 1 Hurricane missing 1 slightly damaged. 1656 hours 1 raider approached dropped bombs sea. No fighters up. No sightings. Night 21/22. 3 alarms, 3 bombers crossed coast. Bombs land no damage.

Convoy Attacked off Messina. Convoy off Straits Messina (see my 1. 252) found by special Wellington 1915 hours. One cruiser 5 D/Rs 5 M/Vs 230° Reggio 15 miles, course south, 9 knots. Attacked by F.A.A. aircraft and Wellingtons 2249 to 0103 hours when convoy was then spread over area 10 miles square. Extensive R/C whole area 22 sighted 0830 hrs. 2 cruisers, 3 D/Rs, 1 tanker, 6000-tons, 108° Cotrone 15 miles, course North, 3 knots. Speed indicates damage and direction as Taranto. Special Wellington shadowing Convoy saw 2111 hours explosion single funnelled M/V, probably action by submarine. F.A.A. aircraft and Wellingtons attacked 238° Cape Spartivento 12 miles in conjunction with special Wellington. Special Wellington using flares for Wellington attack. 4 torpedoes dropped, 1 hit cruiser causing large flash and pall black smoke. One probable hit M/V 7000 tons. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1815/22).

/Part.....

MOST SECRET.

0

War Diary.

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Convoy attacked off Messina - Contd.

(Part 2) Other results unobserved. One Swordfish missing. 12 Wellingtons 10 dropped 84 500 lb. S.A.P. using flares. Each aircraft dropped several sticks at low and medium heights. No hits claimed but many sticks straddle ships making no hits highly improbable. 4 Wellingtons unable to attack as convoy then over wide area and in spite of three hours search no M/V could be found.

Argostoli, small craft attacked.

5 Blenheims out to attack two M/V's Argostoli Harbour found ships had left. One A/C attacked and hit small naval vessel entrance to harbour vessel left with list 45°. Small Italian launch machine gunned also 2 patrol vessels alongside quay. No opposition. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1833/22)

Greek S/M Personnel.

Your 1802/14. Greek S/M personnel should not be sent to U.K. pending consideration by Adm. Sakellariou of suggestion made to him by F.O. (S) that his representative should proceed to U.K. to inspect American submarines. If Greeks then accept two of these vessels, it is contemplated that crews would proceed direct to U.S.A. to take them over. (Head of M. 1853A/22 to C. in C. Med.)

UPRIGHT.
P.31.
TRUSTY.
THUNDERBOLT.

Cancel my 1647B/18.
Proceed forthwith as follows. UPRIGHT to Malta through 037° 06' 017° 40' thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 10.
P.31 to area R within 45 miles of Cape Colonne 039° 06' 017° 16' passing through 036° 58' 019° 30'.
TRUSTY to area P. close up within 48 miles of 038° 11' 020° 21' through 036° 20' 020° 00'.
THUNDERBOLT to south western Aegean within 52 miles of Antikithera light.
Operation B.S. conditional.
P.31 is to remain south of 038° N. and east of 018° E. until 0400B/24. (Capt. S.1. 2021B/22, 2211B/22 to S/M's named).

Enemy Units.

2 merchant ships escorted by 2 torpedo boats in 031° 34' 018° 44' at 0900B/22 course (? 265°) speed 7 knots. (Capt. S.1. 2025B/22 to UNBEATEN).

Situation, Tobruk.

Situation report. Military. Further enemy strong point captured today. Ground gained being consolidated by Infantry. Number of prisoners taken. Now in R/T communication with Armoured formations. Air. One successful tactical R/C. Naval. SOTRA sweeping channel. FALK A/S Patrol to seaward. 2 Motor Launches coastal patrol. TONELINE started pumping 2015. GIBEL KEBIR back loading. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk, 2129B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

/Sebastopol.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Sebastopol, W/T.

My 1206/15. Alexandria W/T was in touch with Sebastopol tonight Saturday 22nd.
(C. in C. Med., 2239B/22 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.11.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Jibuti. — Indications are increasing that Vichy French Jibuti do not intend hold out much longer. Frenchman recently captured escaping in dhow states food will last about 3 weeks and fall Jibuti imminent. Sound of explosions origin unknown heard recently several times in direction Jibuti.
(G.O.C. in C. E.Africa 1228/22).

REPULSE. — Arrived 0530Z/22.
(S.O.I. Colombo 1526Z/22 to Admty.).

China.

U.S.N. Liaison. — Your 2026/19. No N.L.O. has so far been sent to (corrupt group) U.S. Asiatic Fleet as Adm. Hart's opinion when consulted some time ago and with which I concur was to effect that at that time a poor one would be useless and a good officer wasted. I consider time has now come when we should have one there. Officer should be not less than an experienced Cdr. with rank of acting Captain as U.S. Liaison Officer here is a Captain.
(C.in C. China 0211Z/22 to Admty.).

QUEEN MARY. — Your 0541/19. No objection to docking of QUEEN MARY being postponed until 12/12. as she is not required until U.S. 14. sailing Sydney ?late February.
(D.of S.T. 0327A/22 to Commodore, Malaya).

German ship Yokohama. — 1. Talk in German community in Yokohama of imminent departure of one of their better ships in an attempt to run our blockade.
2. Modern fast German Ship, previously referred to as Glen Ship, is now alongside Yokohama. Soviet N.A. inspected this ship at close quarters 18/11. He reports:-
(a) name OSORNO, HAMBURG, was faintly visible and painted over:
(b) foremost boat davits removed from both sides: also glass in the vicinity. These davits are normally immediately below the bridge, thought this space had been cleared for A/A guns;
(c) cargo now being loaded consists of food and lubricating oil.
3. Ship has just been docked and rudder and

/propeller.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

German Ship Yokohama -Contd.

propeller not yet replaced. Deck space is being covered in with temporary wooden shelters suggesting provision for additional passenger accommodation.
(N.A. Tokyo, no T.O.O./22).

America and West Indies.

SNOWBERRY
ARROWHEAD.

My 1336z/2/11.
SNOWBERRY was delayed by heavy weather and ARROWHEAD by defects at Iceland. Now expected St. John's 23/11 and 25/11 respectively. Intend to sail them in company to Charleston to arrive 1/12 with similar arrival instructions as former ships if acceptable to B.A.R.M.
(C.C.N.F. 0024/22).

S.S.
POLYPHEMUS.

C.in C. South Atlantic's 0951N/22 asking immediate information Dutch Ship POLYPHEMUS. Last information this centre sailed Colon 22/10 for New York.
(S.O.I. Kingston 0841R/22 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
Your 0841/22 Netherlands POLYPHEMUS arrived New York 31/10 and is still in Port.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1821Z/22 to S.O.I. Kingston).

CLARKIA.

Nassau departure 21/11 CLARKIA, Mobile 24/11.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 0954R/22 to Admty. etc.).

Casablanca Intelligence.

Casablanca 18/11 A.1. Arrivals 14/11 NORD AASSEL from Port Etienne. 15/11 AUGUSTE DENISE from Port Etienne. 16/11 PONTET CANET from Lisbon. SCHIAFFINO FRERES arrived and left for Oran. 17/11 ARCTURUS MEDIE II EMERETTE II and OUERGHA from Oran. Departures 16/11 FOUZOU for Mogador, ILLE DE FRANCE for Fedalar.
(B.A.D. 1215R/22 to S.O.I. Freetown)
N.I.D. Comment. :- (a) NORD AASSEL believed meant MONT CASSEL.
(b) SCHIAFFINO FRERES passed Gibraltar eastwards on 10/11. (c) For EMERETTE II read IMERETHIE II.

/ILLUSTRIOUS.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS. ILLUSTRIOUS is to sail from Norfolk after dark 4/12, having embarked Martlets in accordance with A.M. 0915A/9. Ship is to arrive Jamaica A.M/7 and embark 6 Swordfish and torpedoes as necessary complying with A.M. 0915A/19. Ship will be ready to leave Jamaica A.M./8/12 and estimate possibly S. of A. to U.K. of 23 knots. C.in C. A.W.I is requested to issue sailing instructions to Jamaica and for onward passage. (B.A.R.M. 1230R/22 to ILLUSTRIOUS).

NORG SONNAVIND Your 1554A/20. NORG SONNAVIND arrived Balboa 21/11. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1249R/22 to Admty.).

BYT's 1-5 Following from B.A.S.R. Further to my 2005R/21 before reaching any decision as to employment of BYT's 1-5 prior to their Atlantic passage, suggest M.of W.T. be consulted. Understood from Shipping Mission that there are already 7 lend-lease tugs now in Canada held up through inability to make Atlantic crossing in winter. (B.A.D. 1429R/22 to Admty.).

P.551. S/M P.551 will pass through position (X) 050° 50' N 045° 00' W. at about 1030Z/23 and (P) 050° 30' N. 044° 00' W. at 1500Z/23 thence steering 068° at 10 knots. Warn all escorts of O.N.36 this submarine may be encountered in the vicinity of (P). (C.C.N.F. 1552Z/22 to Cdr. Task Unit.4.1.12)

N.E.F. destroyers. Request names of R.N. Destroyers at present allocated Newfoundland escort force. Has any relief been allocated for READING. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1637Z/21 to C.in C. W.A.).

MEROPE. French tanker MEROPE arrived Luxpan 18/11 from Tarafa Cuba in ballast. (Opnav 1700Z/22 to Admty.).

LIVERPOOL. Your 2132Q/21. DEVONSHIRE having effectively dealt with the major menace it is considered LIVERPOOL should continue with her previous programme. (V.C.N.S. 1703A/22 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

/Archangel.....

MOST SECRET.

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Archangel Convoys information. — Your 1819R/21. Agree. A.M. 1153A/20 was transmitted under a misapprehension. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1743A/22 to B.A.D.).

H.X. 161 — Your 1054Z/22. Belle Isle route not recommended. Awaiting recommended routeing sail cast 56. (Opnav 1800Z/22 to Admty.).

EXCAMBION suspicions ship 16/11. — U.S. EXCAMBION reports that on 16/11 at 0730 A.S.T. in 3652 N 2143 W. sighted unidentified freighter about 4500 tons. southbound approached at fairly high speed and then eased to about 6 knots. No flag or guns visible. Description. Ship appeared light. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1802Q/22 to Admty.).

Escort Commitments. — Your 1636/19. U.S. C.N.O. concurs. (B.A.D. 1805R/22 to Admty.)

S.S. MICHALIS. — Greek MICHALIS ashore near Quebec Bridge 0010/21 leaking badly. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1831Z/22).

PRINCE ROBERT and PIERRE L.D. — Consul General Saigon's Arfar No.90 to M.E.W. and Arfar No. 260 to C.O.I.S. Singapore only. Subject to concurrence of N.S.H.Q. Ottawa PRINCE ROBERT may be diverted from passage to Honolulu to assist in interception of French ship PIERRE L.D. 2. If N.S.H.Q. Ottawa concurs C.in C. China should not delay PRINCE ROBERT more than a week. (V.C.N.S. 1921A/22 to N.S.H.Q. C.in C. China) Concur (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0031Z/23).

ALGERIE (French). — Casablanca 20/11. A.1. ALGERIE was due to sail a.m./21 or 22/11 to northward with a cargo of Manganese. (B.A.D. 2017R/22 to S.O.I. Freetown).

Patrols Axis shipping. — Cancel A.M's 1439/21 and 1701/21.
2. Patrol is to be established in areas contained by the following positions as soon as practicable.

(A)	HAWKINS	WPTX	WPJH	RJJH	RJWS.
(B)	MARSDALE	NWQQ	NWHZ	TKHZ	TKTX.
(C)	CORINTHIAN	DJJH	DJWS	WPWS	WPAK.
(D)	CIRCASSIA	PDHZ	PDTX	NWTX	NWJH.

3. Object. Interception of axis shipping.

/4.CIRCASSIA....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Patrols, Axis shipping. -Contd.

4. CIRCASSIA is to proceed to patrol area with despatch.
5. Patrol is not required after 1200 G.M.T./29 when (A) CIRCASSIA to proceed as ordered by C. in C. America and West Indies.
(B) CORINTHIAN to proceed as ordered by S.O. Western Patrol to join S.L.93.
(C) MARSDALE to proceed to FX2.
(D) HAWKINS to continue patrol until prudent limit of endurance (estimated 27/11) allowing for return to Portsmouth south of Ireland (R).
(V.C.N.S. 2048A/22 to C.in C. A.W.I. ships concerned etc.).

AGAMEMNON — Sailed Baltimore.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2359Z/22).

Australia and New Zealand.

KANIMBLA — Congratulations on the fine work performed during two years' absence from her Home Waters, and in particular for the part she played in operations at Bandar Shahpur (P.G.) which culminated in successful salvage of German S.S. HOHENFELS.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0054A/22 to A.C.N.B.).

U.S.14. — Your 1146Z/12 0429Z/15 proposed departure Wellington 0940M/24/12.
(N.Z.N.B. 1515M/22 to A.C.N.B.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.11.1941
Saturday.

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1059Z. D/F Bearings at 1059Z/22 indicate U/B within 60 miles 010°N. and 100 miles 030° W. 40% reliable. (C.inC. S.A. 1203N/22 to S.A. Sqdn.).

0001A/18. 0001A/18 unknown submarine spoke neutral vessel approx. 17 miles S.E. Cape Trafalgar. (V.A.C.N.A. 1241A/22 to Admty.).

Estimated approx. positions of U/B's.
(D.D.I.C. 1329A/22, 1330A/22).

1100Z. Bearing from Cupar 210/3 of transmission at 1100Z/22 gives approx. cut with Empire Bearings in 14° N. 25° W. Thought this transmission was from a U/B.
(D.D.I.C. 1600A/22 to C.in C. S.A. etc).

1748 G.M.T. At 1748 G.M.T. submarines being homed on convoy on your approx. bearing.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1907A/22 to EGRET).

1635 G.M.T. A/C reports sighting S/M diving in 044° (?47') N. 057° 54' W. at 2035 G.M.T.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 2149Z/22 to ANNAPOLIS HAMILTON amended 2330Z/22).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Lowestoft. Coastal force craft were able to leave but not to enter Lowestoft harbour today (see 21/11).

FORESIGHT, FURY, FORESTER. These three destroyers were ordered today to leave patrol in the approaches to the Bay of Biscay and join S.L.92. They are eventually to join the Home Fleet at Scapa.

White Sea ports. S.B.N.O. Archangel considers that on account of ice, cruisers and convoy escorts should in future only fuel at Archangel in emergency and that all warships should as a general rule proceed to Murmansk. Molotovsk is still reported usable with icebreakers, but S.B.N.O. Archangel does not recommend its use as experience has shown that the Russians never produce icebreakers at the time asked for.

British Air Operations.

Coastal Command aircraft carried out successful attacks today against shipping off the coasts of Norway and Western France.

Mining.

Peterhead South Harbour was closed during most of today owing to a drifting mine sinking in the middle of the entrance channel.

Owing to suspected minelaying the ports of Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff and Barry were closed at 2010A and Rivers Parrett and Watchet at 2140A.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

The French fishing Ketch BELLE BRETAGNE is reported to have been intercepted off Cape St. Vincent and taken to Gibraltar.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

GLENROY was hit by an aircraft torpedo at 1620 today whilst proceeding to Tobruk. She was taken in tow by CARLISLE.

One or possibly both the attacking aircraft were shot down by the fighter escort.

Four Naval aircraft laid mines in the Western Approaches to Tripoli harbour, a fifth releasing flares and bombing the town as a diversion.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

HALCYON. HALCYON is urgently required to be ready to sail 14/12. What work if any must be deferred to make this possible. (D. of Dockyards 1917A/23 to F.O.I.C. London).

Admiral Muselier (LOBELIA). Admiralty's 1856A/17 and 1314/13. C. in C. W.A. 1049/14, C.C.N.F's 0113/14 being passed to you for necessary action. For COMMANDANT DETROYAT read LOBELIA. (Capt D. Greenock 2207/23 to LOBELIA).

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian M/V's. Routeing and Communications. Information has been received from Soviet N.A. in Washington that Admiral Isakoff desires information on following points
(a) Routeing of ships to Archangel and Persian Gulf.
(b) Method of communication to be used between Commodores of Convoys and S.O's of Escorts with Soviet Naval Shore and Seagoing Authorities.
2. In reply to (a) Soviet ships for Archangel which are capable of convoy speed, minimum 7½ knots, are sailed either from U.K. or Halifax to Hvalfjord for onward sailing in P.Q. convoy.
3. Ships for Persian Gulf are routed independently by N.C.S.Os. or Consular Shipping advisers in the same manner as British ships.
4. (b) Is not understood. It is presumed Admiral Isakoff is aware of the local arrangements made by you and of the Anglo-Soviet key memoranda. A.M. 2331A/6/9 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk and 2350A/5/11 refer. (A.C.N.S. T. 1444A/23 to Ad. Miles).

Fuelling of GOSSAMER. Oiler BUG arranged by Russians found to be empty. Half filled from SPEEDY but fuel situation in GOSSAMER becoming acute. Am therefore requisitioning 55 tons bunker fuel from tanker SAN AMBROSIA who carries divisional S.T.O. North Russia and can spare it. May have to rely on Icebreaker which latter regards as certain in next 24 hours to get away. (GOSSAMER 1511Q/23 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

HAMBLEDON. — Proceed to Sheerness now. Do not pass F.S.52 (?now) at B.7 buoy. (C. in C. Nore 0751A/23 to HAMBLEDON).

H.44. — S/M H.44 leaves position (i) 180° Wolf Rock 5 miles at 0800A/26 thence diving by day to R/V at 0800A/28 in (vi) 050° 31' N. 000° 41' W. Route. (Capt. S.7. 0902A/23).

Floating Crane. — Sailed 0832 JULIET CORIOLANUS. (C. in C. Plymouth 0906/23).

CROOME. — Your 2358A/22. My P.C.S. are 048° 08' N. 017° 50' W. 240°, 11 knots. (CROOME 0955/23).

FAULKNOR. ICARUS. — E.T.A. Scapa 1600. ICARUS in company. (Capt. D.8. 1034A/23).
ORIBI completed boiler cleaning and repairs by HECLA on 20/11.
(ii) IMPULSIVE is being taken in hand today.
(iii) Request you will sail one destroyer to Hvalfiord to replace IMPULSIVE in capital ship screen. (C. in C. H.F. 1146N/23 to R.A.D. H.F.)

EREBUS: VANQUISHER. WITCH. — Scapa departures 1600 EREBUS, VANQUISHER, WITCH. E.T.A. Lough Foyle 0900/25. (A.C.O.S. 1714/23).

RESOLUTION. — Intend sail RESOLUTION escorted by BERKELEY and KUJAWIAK at 1700/24 to Scapa. (C. in C. Plymouth 1742/23).

PUNJABI. — Proceed passing Switha at 1200/24 and proceed to the Tyne to arrive in daylight for refit at Hebburn. 2. Speed after 21A Buoy should not exceed 10 knots except in an emergency when speeds between 10 and 20 knots should be avoided. (R.A.D. 1900A/23 to PUNJABI).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Patrols.

Weather permitting carry out following patrol tonight:-
(a) 1 (One) Unit M.G.B's (L) Q.E.4.A.
(b) 1 (One) Unit M.L.'s Q.E.6.
(C. in C. Nore 0942A/23).
Night 23/24. 2 M.L's on patrol westwards of position 180° Portland Bill 10. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1537A/23).

KENT. (Iceland-Faroes Patrol)

My 1641A/22 para. (2). For "012° W" read "022° W.". (C. in C. H.F. 1026N/23 to KENT).
KENT sailed to patrol Iceland-Faroes passage 1330. (A.C.I.C. 1646N/23)

C.S.10.

C.S.10's 1844Z/21. It is essential that C.S.10 be given up to date information of Soviet submarine positions. (D.O.D. H. 1150A/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

FORESIGHT. FURY. FORESTER.

A.M. 1938/20; Leave patrol now and join S.L. 92 to limit of prudent endurance before proceeding to Londonderry for fuel. Estimated P.C.S. of S.L. 92 at 2000A/22 was 41° 40' N. 23° 36' W., 004°, 6 knots.
2. After fuelling at Londonderry proceed to Scapa and join Home Fleet. (A.C.N.S. F. 1324A/23 to FORESIGHT, FURY, FORESTER).
Your 1938A/20. At 0900A/24 FURY who has least endurance will have 4 days fuel remaining for 13 knots allowing 15% remaining. All 3 ships require provisions including flour. (?) T.O.O. 1617A/22.
My position 041° 48' N. 024° 02' W.
(FORESIGHT 1515A/23 to Adty.)

CUMBERLAND (Denmark Strait Patrol)

Proceed passing boom at 1100Z/24 to patrol Denmark Strait, particular attention being given to the vicinity of the ice-limit. Object intercept enemy surface vessels breaking out into the Atlantic. (C. in C. H.F. 1952A/23 to CUMBERLAND).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C for ENGADINE.

My 1646/8 and 2023/17. Hope to load ENGADINE with 9 Sea Hurricanes, 3 Swordfish and 2 Albacore for Egypt and 6 Swordfish for Freetown in time to sail with W.S.14 on 6/12.
3. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to report the earliest date that ENGADINE can start loading, working up period being curtailed as necessary. F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1644/21 refers. (5th S.L. 1106A/23 to R.A.N.A.S.)

S.B.R.

Request S.B.R. in Area 55 and Area 54 East of 007° W. from 1800/24 until further notice. (F.O.S. 1126A/23 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

S.S. SKERRIES attacked.

At 1755/22 when coming through Tuskar Sound vessel was attacked by three Junkers 88's with machine gun fire and bombs. One plane made numerous attempts to get over vessel but was driven off by ships defensive equipment. When last seen blazing oil and smoke were coming from aircraft, her engines were silent, and machine was losing height rapidly. No injuries to crew or vessel but slight damage to electrical equipment. At 1430/23 off Bailey Lighthouse we opened fire on a suspicious aircraft. We fired 2 rounds from 12 Pdr. and a burst of M.G. fire. Aircraft then flew away towards land. (SKERRIES 1515/23).

Shetlands attacked.

At 1420 today a JU. 88 attacked R.A.F. Station Skaw with machine gunfire and dropped one bomb. Bomb did not explode. Two civilians injured. Aircraft made off eastward. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 2003/23).

Mining.

S.N.81.
S.N.82.

Request programme S.N. Lay. Laying of 82 and 81 can be accepted and cover provided by cruisers on patrol. (C. in C. H.F. 0937N/23 to R.A.M.)

Thames Estuary.

One Magnetic Mine detonated at 0746/20 in 241° Yantlet South Buoy 2½ cables. Details.
This is the 50th mine detonated by M.M.S. 8. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1119/23).
One S.A. mine detonated at 1105/22. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1131/23).

/N.L.22.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

N.L.22. Intend to carry out Operation N.L. 22 tonight. (V.A.Dover 1604A/23).
Two M.L.'s will leave Dover at 2200 to operate off Wissant returning at about 0140/24, route via East Varne each way. (V.A. Dover 1723A/23).

Bristol Channel. Owing to suspected enemy minelaying the ports of Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, and Barry are closed until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 2010A/23).
Add to my 2010A/23 River Parrett and Watchet. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 2140A/23).

Navigational.

Lowestoft. Cancel my 1810A/22. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0831A/23)
My 1810A/22. Movement of wreck now permits exit of coastal force craft at high water in favourable weather but no entry. Intend sailing today for Yarmouth M.L's 145, 147,253, M.G.B's (S) 87, 89, 91 and M.A.S.B. 33. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1015A/23)
In agreement with N.O.I.C. Lowestoft we agree quickest method to clear entrance Lowestoft Harbour now partially closed by wreck of sweeper ROWAN TREE is to disperse with explosives. Necessary arrangements in hand. (Chief Salvage Officer 1315A/23).

Peterhead. South Harbour Peterhead closed owing to drifting mine sinking 50 yards from S. Pier Head in middle of Channel. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1005/23).
Mine cleared. Peterhead South harbour open. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1429/23).

White Sea.. Solid ice now up to 3 miles of Light Vessel, and both vessels dragged 1½ miles last night in drifting sheet of ice. Submit this anchorage is no longer safe for future escorts. (GOSSAMER 1511C/23 to S.B.N.O. Archangel, (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2240C/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia)
See Shipping.

Kellett.
S.W. Goodwin.
Galloper. Kellett lightbuoy replaced in position. S.W. Goodwin and West Galloper lightbuoy removed from Station. Request Q.Z.H. (V.A. Dover 1746A/23).

MOST SECRET.

1

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Use of Night Fighter A/C. — Admiralty 1959/22. There is no objection to introducing this procedure provided groups are satisfied with reception on 385 kc/s. (C. in C. Nore 1127A/23 to H.Q.F.C.)

Minor Warships Recognition Signals. — Your 1624/14/11. Alternative (I) is preferred. (C. in C. Rosyth 1500/23).

Casualties and Defects.

BELMONT. — Arrived BELMONT with defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0153A/23).

WALPOLE. — Position 7.A. buoy, speed 10 knots. WALPOLE has engine trouble. (MEYNELL 0854/23).

SARDONYX. (Damaged 22/11). — My 1750A/22. If returning through Minches you should take over escort of SARDONYX from PUNJABI. (C. in C. W.A. 1003A/23 to ROCKINGHAM). Arrival SARDONYX. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1623A/23).

BESTUM. — Vessel on bottom 20 ft. water L.W.S.T. Bomb hole in No.2 hold now being patched. U.X.B. in hold visible. Engine room and stoke-hold tidal. Commencing pumping operations 1200. Possibility of floating at high water 1500, today very slight. Position confirmed 160° 3 cables Cork Spit Buoy. (Salvage Officer 1030A/23 to F.O.I.C. Harwich). Attempt to refloat at high water failed. Ship common to sea through bomb hole in fore hold and other undiscovered damage from near misses. Decks awash at half tide position Cork Spit. Will make further attempt at daylight if weather suitable. Ship loaded full cargo. All coal. (Salvage Officer, Harwich 1650A/23).

MANXMAN. — MANXMAN will complete cleaning of all boilers Noon 1st. Ship is at six hours notice for sea. (R.A.M. 1038/23).

MARAUDER. — (H.M. Tug) Out of action through damage caused by explosion of ST. APOLLO's boilers. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1039A/23).

/BROADWAY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.11.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

BROADWAY. — Arrived BROADWAY with defects. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1046A/23).

BESSIE CLARK (Wiping Unit Tender) — My 1035/23. Unit returning to harbour. Damage reported to towing gear of BESSIE CLARK. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1120/23).

THEOMITOR. — S.C.53. Your 1320A/23. Destination THEOMITOR now Mersey but if any question of unseaworthiness order ship to proceed to Belfast. (C. in C. W.A. 1548/23 to VANOC).

LORD GREY. — My 1757A/18. LORD GREY returned to Clyde with gale damage. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1554A/23).

SHERWOOD. — Left convoy C.T.7 at 1900/23 as have developed serious lubricating oil leakage from starboard casing bearing cover. At present rate of leakage starboard engine will be out of action in about 12 hours time. Am proceeding to Londonderry for repairs. (SHERWOOD 1901/23).

MINERVE. — My 1543A/21/11 as amended by my 1035A/22/11. MINERVE and LOCH MONTEITH now proceeding to Scapa for repairs. (Capt. S.9 2327A/23).

Shipping and Convoys.

White Sea Shipping Facilities. — S.B.N.O. Archangel's 09050/13 (originally circulated as 0648A/15, and corrected by War Registry note) re programme for convoys to Archangel.
Correct para. (c) to read "From early January onwards only 3 ships per large ice-breaker may get (?through) Gorlo at a ?time. Iokanka with limited capacity would then have" etc.
Correct para. (d) to read "Ice breakers STALIN and LENIN are only 2 available for (c) above they are capable of running continuously except for short periods for refuelling" etc.
(War Registry, 23/11/41).

/Ice.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

White Sea Shipping Facilities -Contd.

Ice report No. 9. Thick ice reported up to 5 miles outside position of North Dvina light vessel. This makes fuelling of escorts from tanker possible but difficult. Cruisers can be fuelled inside or outside bar only if weather is suitable and cannot take place in strong North West winds.
(2) Merchant ships cannot proceed (?via) Modyugsky without icebreakers.
(3) Minimum temperature at night remains about 25° F. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2205C/23).
GOSSAMER's 1511C/23 and Archangel Ice Report Numbers 9. Consider in future cruiser and escort should only fuel at Archangel in emergency and that all warships should as a general rule proceed to Murmansk after convoy enters thick ice. If warships get stuck in ice and require icebreaker movements of M/V's will be slowed down.
(2)Molotovsk is still reported usable with icebreaker but recent experience of ice shows Russians never produce icebreakers at time asked for and therefore I do not now recommend Molotovsk. Admiralty pass to all addressees except S.B.N.O. North Russia. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2240C/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

P.Q.4.

Have failed to locate P.Q.4 or to obtain communication with local escort. Am searching along convoy route at mean speed of advance 7 knots. My estimated position 1100Z/23 73° 41' N. 11° 10' E. (Admiralty please pass to S.B.N.O.'s Archangel and North Russia).
(BERWICK 0415Z/23 to Admty.)

C.T. 7.

My 2256A/22. For BELMONT read SHERWOOD. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0744A/23).
My 1024A/17. LANARKSHIRE routed to Bermuda to land machine gun crew. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0931A/23) Left Convoy at 1900/23 as have serious engine defect. (SHERWOOD 1901/23.) See Casualties.

F.S.53.

F.S.53 is to anchor between B.4 and B.5 buoys in the Northernmost half of the swept channel. They are to weigh at 0900/24 and follow the sweeper in. (C. in C. Nore 1013A/23 to LEEDS).

S.L.91. and S.L. 91.G.

Congratulations on the success with which you brought your convoys home. (C. in C. W.A. 1121 A/23 to Capt. W.E.B. Magee, R.N.)

P.Q.3.
CAPE CORSO.
CAPE.RACE.

Your 1316A/22. MACBETH reports both CAPE CORSO and CAPE RACE straggled after two days.
(A.C.I.C. 1200N/23 to Adty.)

/S.L. 92.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

S.L.92. FORESIGHT, FURY and FORESTER to join Convoy. (A.C.N.S. F. 1324A/23 to FORESIGHT) See Operations.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BELLE BRETAGNE, intercepted.

Following for M.E.W. 716 Arfar. Vichy French Ketch BELLE BRETAGNE bound Mauretania fishing ground, Boarded off Cape St. Vincent and brought in under armed guard. Has 0180 gallons petrol for motor boats. Diesel oil capacity 2,000 gallons in six tanks. Master states 500 gallons only allowed. On leaving Douarnenez water capacity 1800 gallons in 3 tanks. Vessel has German authorisation to fish off Morocco, must return within four months. 20,000 francs deposited by Master with Germans as surety for vessel's return with same crew, failing which reprisal exercised against crew's families. Master instructed on entering neutral port to report to German authorities. No other grounds for suspicion, crew seem reconciled to German domination. Instruction requested.
(C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 1135/23 to Admty).
Your 1135/23 to M.E.W. "Grounds for suspicion" are not required for capturing French Fishing Vessels. All such vessels encountered on high seas are to be held vide C.A.F.O. 479/41. Instructions will be sent in due course.
(D.E.W.D., 1930A/23 to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar).

SERAFIN TOPIC.

American Observer Oran informed 21/11 by reliable source that 96 goods wagons crude rubber arrived there 15/11. None yet loaded but understood some is to be shipped in SERAFIN TOPIC Yugoslavian recently handed over Italy. Hoped to received advance news this ship sailing.
(Consul, Tangier, 1500/23 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

DEVONSHIRE.

Proceed forthwith to search to Northwards along 020° W., as far as 002° N., then return to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 0025N/23 to DEVONSHIRE).

ALCANTARA.

Your 1134R/8. Can date be given for taking ALCANTARA in hand please?
(C. in C. S.A., 1111N/23 to B.A.R.M.)

/STANLEY....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

STANLEY. Your 1250A/22 and my 2001/17. Endurance of STANLEY is insufficient to enable her to reach Londonderry from Bathurst without fuelling en route. STANLEY fuelled Ponta Delgada on 8/10. Intend she shall sail with S.L.94 if repairs to dynamo completed on arrival breaking off as necessary to proceed Gibraltar for fuel then to U.K. as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (C. in C. S.A., 1303N/23).

M.Ls. for Gibraltar. Your 2132A/27/9/41. CLAN MACINNES should be ready to sail from Freetown in S.L.94. She could carry M.Ls. 33 and 35 to Gibraltar if diverted. Deck stowage athwartships on hatches should be secure for this passage. Request instructions. (C. in C. S.A., 1403N/23 to Admty).

DORSETSHIRE. Return to Freetown on completion of today's sweep so as to arrive Freetown P.M./25 passing through 003° 00' N., 021° 00' W. (C. in C. S.A., 1613N/23 to DORSETSHIRE).

Enemy Supply Ships and U/Bs. Evident that German supply ships have sailed recently from French ports and can by now be in South Atlantic,. Probable ex fruit ships and not tanker type. 2. At least one U/boat has operated as far south as Walvis Bay. 3. With a supply ship in approx. 25° S., in area previously used by Raider Supply Ships, U/boats could operate in Cape Area. 4. In view of recent lack of success in Freetown Area and known presence of five U/boats in Southern waters, attacks in Cape Area must be expected in near future. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1812A/23 to Cs. in C. etc).

Hastings Aerodrome. Development of Hastings Aerodrome is progressing better and R.A.F. interests are increasing. 8 fighters based there now, and I understand there will eventually be two fighter Squadrons besides a G.R. Hudson Squadron at Waterloo. A.O.C.W.A. contemplates having a Group Captain in command of R.A.F. Station at Hastings. In this case presumably the control and organisation should be as at other shared stations. (C. in C. S.A., 1917N/23 to Admty).

DEVONSHIRE. Well Done. (1st S.L., 2159A/23 to DEVONSHIRE) (Intercepted raider 22/11).

/Group....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Group Sailings of M/Vs. S.T. Convoys.

Request you will establish group sailings of ships sailing westward from Capetown on principle that ships shall be escorted during about first 100 miles of their voyage dispersing after dark so as to be not less than 25 miles apart by daylight the following day. In first instance, system must be operated with air and surface A/S forces now available in Cape area. Intended to reinforce the latter very shortly by transfer of corvettes from other commands to Freetown so as to enable you to despatch an equivalent number from Freetown to Capetown. Ships inward bound should be re-routed as necessary to approach Capetown along an arc, patrolled by A/S aircraft. Your 2343N/14 para. 2, D, and A.M. 2231A/20, request you will signal new dispersal point further west to conform to new routeing policy being promulgated in Amendment No. 40 to A.M. 0001/1/5. (A.C.N.S. (T), 2329A/23 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Convoy.

Position of enemy convoy 202 Matapan 70 at 0800. (Hal Far, 0700Z/23 to F.O. 2 in C., Med).

Force I, Visibility.

Sand rising Western Desert. Visibility expected deteriorate locally to 100 yards. (Alexandria, 0700Z/23 to Force I).

UPHOLDER.

Your 1237B/22 (N.T. in W.R.) confirmed UPHOLDER will sail P.M./24. (Capt. S.10., 1024B/23 to Capt. S.1).

Enemy Units.

1 M/V, 4,000 tons three escort vessels 170° 10 knots, 34° 10' N., 12° 40' E. (Med., A/C, 1006/23 to Hal Far).

YARRA, HEYTHROP.

Sail 1130/23 through A,Y, to R/V with convoy "Table" expected at D. at 0600/24 and accompany to Alexandria.*(?Alexandria C.C.O., 1027B/23 to YARRA, HEYTHROP).
*Relevant signals being sent you.

/UPRIGHT....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UPRIGHT.	Capt. (S) 1's 2021B/22 proceed through 035° 51' 015° 15' to arrive Malta before 1800B/24 or at 0730B next day. (Capt. S.10., 1129B/23 to UPRIGHT).
O.24.	Your 1004A/20. Consider approach to Naples most suitable area of which northern approach probably more profitable but routed approach more important. (Capt. S.10., 1159B/23 to Capt. S.8).
Refits of S/Ms.	F.O.(S)'s 1312A/20. In present critical stage of the situation in the Mediterranean this refitting programme is not acceptable. URSULA and TRIUMPH can just be spared but I cannot release any more until their reliefs have actually joined the flotilla. (C. in C. Med., 1217B/23 to Admty).
GO PINO, ABBAZIA.	Ref. 1734/15/11 para.A(N.T. in W.D.) now reports GO PINO, overdue, has been sunk, B.2. No information ABBAZIA? (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1233B/23 to S.O.(I) Med).
Fleet Movements.	Arrival 22/11 NAIAD, GALATEA, EURYALUS, HASTY, HOTSPUR, Motor Launch 1023, HILMI. Departure 22/11 Greek S/M TRITON. Arrival 23/11 YARRA, PARRAMATTA, departure 23/11 NAPIER, NIZAM, KIPLING JACKAL, HASTY, CARLISLE, GLENROY, ERIDGE, AVONVALE, FARNDALE. (S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1237B/23 to Admty etc).
AFGHANISTAN, GLENEARN.	Following received from AFGHANISTAN towing GLENEARN. Have lost propeller blade, returning Aden with tow, E.T.A 0800/25. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1342Z/23 to F.O.R.S.)
Russian A/C, Cyprus.	Cyprus 22/11, Russian seaplane landed Morphou Bay, crew safe, being interrogated. (C. in C. M.E., 1455/23, to W.O.)
GLENROY torpedoed.	GLENROY hit by air torpedo, engine room flooded. (?CARLISLE 1620B/23 to C. in C. Med).

/Am....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

GLENROY torpedoed. Contd.

Am returning to you at full speed. (Capt. D.7., 1639/23 to CARLISLE).
I am taking GLENROY in tow and will proceed to Alexandria. (CARLISLE, 1642B/23 to C. in C. Med).
Am in company with CARLISLE who has GLENROY in tow in 031° 40' N., 026° 28' E. Am carrying out an all round anti-submarine patrol. (Capt. D.7., 1958B/22 (23?) to C. in C. Med).
Have GLENROY in tow, engine room and No. 5 hold Flooded, draught aft about 40 feet. P.C. and S. at 1930B, 031° 34' N., 026° 30' E. 090° 5 knots. Capt. (D) 7 is in company. (CARLISLE, 2000B/23 to C. in C. Med).
GLENROY in tow of CARLISLE in 031° 38' N., 026° 30' E., at 1640 returning to eastwards. (R.A. Alexandria, 2025B/23 to HEYTHROP, YARRA).
FLAMINGO sailed at 2330 at 15 knots.
Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY sailed at 2120 at 9 knots. Both proceeding to join you. Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY keeping (corrupt group) kc/s single operator period. (Alexandria, 2340B/23 to CARLISLE)

Air R/C.

Air R/C A.M./23 Malta to Sapienza Island 50 miles then abandoned owing to weather (II) 50 miles from line 90° Maria di Leuca 15 miles to 270° Cephalonia 20 miles. Sighted at 1040 one hospital ship 270° Cape Ducato 30 miles course S.E.10 knots. (V.A. Malta, 1639B/23 to Med., Fleet).

FARNDALE.

Am sending FARNDALE with all troops Tobruk. (CARLISLE, 1720B/23 to C. in C. Med).
Proceed Mersa Matruh.
(Capt. D.7., 1835/23 to FARNDALE)
FARNDALE has wire around her propeller. Have ordered FARNDALE to proceed Mersa Matruh. (Capt. D.7., 1836B/23 to FARNDALE, N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh).
Cancel D.7's 1835. Proceed Tobruk.
(C. in C. Med., 1900/23 to FARNDALE)
E.T.A. boom 0040B/24. Acknowledge.
(FARNDALE, 1942B/23, to N.O.I.C. Tobruk).
Cancel my 1900/23.
(C. in C, Med., 2000B/23 to FARNDALE).
Your 2000B/23. Can steam 22 knots. Request permission to continue Tobruk.
(FARNDALE, 2019B/23 to C. in C. Med).
Your 2019 approved, subject to being E.of 26° E., 0615/24. (C. in C. Med., 2128B/23 2143B/23 to FARNDALE).

/Enemy....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.11.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Units.	1500 2 destroyers one large M/V 032° 15' 015° 30' course 340° speed unknown. (V.A. Malta, 1734B/23 to UNBEATEN).
Malta Raids.	22nd. P.M. 20 Macchis approached intercepted by Hurricanes, 3 destroyed, 2 probably destroyed, 4 damaged. 1 Hurricane very slight damage usual enemy search today but unable to engage them. Night 22/23 Nov. 3 Alarms, total 3 bombers approached only 1 crossed coast, bombs land sea, no damage.
Tripoli mined, Berka bombed.	1 F.A.A. Aircraft dropped flares and bombs Tripoli town, Diversion, 4 others failed to find and laid 4 mines short distance West Tripoli. 6 Wellington I.C. attacked Berka Aerodrome 1000-2030 hours. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1801/23).
FARNDALE, GLENROY, FLAMINGO, YARRA, HEYTHROP.	FARNDALE expected to leave Tobruk 0100/24 unaccompanied for Alexandria at 22 knots to be East of 026° E., by 0615/24. (2) GLENROY in tow of CARLISLE with 7 destroyers in 031° 40' N., 026° 28' E., at 2000/22 in tow to Alexandria, speed 5 knots. Daylight position will be signalled. (3) FLAMINGO and Fleet tug ST. ISSEY joining GLENROY at daylight/24 from Alexandria. (4) YARRA, HEYTHROP escorting convoy "Table" as in N.O.I.C. Alexandria 1027/23 and 1112/16. (C. in C. Med., 2355B/23 to 201 Group, A.H.Q. Western Desert).
Tobruk.	22/11 arrival TONELINE, SOUTHERN SEA, 23rd. Departure TONELINE, GEBELKEBIR, SOUTHERN SEA, KLO FALK, SOIKA. (N.O.I.C. Tobruk, 2359B/23).

MOST SECRET

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GLASGOW
W.S. 12 B.

Colombo arrival 0130Z/23 GLASGOW.
(S.O.I.Colombo 0352Z/23 to Admty.). Escorting W.S. 12 B. (D.O.R. 24/11).

MARY LIVANOS
"R" Report.

At approx. 1230Z/22 and 2040Z/22. Greek ship MARY LIVANOS originated Q Q Q Q and R R R R signals respectively. Both signals have since been cancelled. (2) Any ships having heard anything of either of these signals is to report accordingly on return to Harbour. (3) N.O.I.C. Simonstown is requested to inform me if either of above signals were intercepted.
(C.in C. E.I. 0358Z/23 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown. E.I. Sqdn).

Floating
Dock from
Bandar Shahpur.

Your 1544/16. If not available from F.O.C.R.I.N. manila cardage can be obtained from Hong Kong and steel wire rope from Singapore. If dockmaster cannot be obtained locally or from F.O.C.R.I.N. suggest arrangements be made with C.in C. Med. for a suitable agreement man from Alexandria to be detailed temporarily for this service.
(D.of D. 0417A/23 to C.in C. E.I.).

Iraq
Persia.

Re oil development. (W.O. 1115/23 to C.in C. M.E.)
See Lion Copy.

Force G.

PRINCE OF WALES arrived here.
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 1810Z/23 to Admty. etc.).

China.

Vesca
Shipping
reports.

Your 1632/12.
(1). (A). Local coastal sailings included China Coast Bight movements referred to in 0856/29/4 1940 to Admty.
(B) Inter-Island sailings in Netherlands East Indies and Philippine Islands.
(C) Japanese Ships trading between Japan and China.
(D) Japanese Transports.
(2) Yes.
(3) Lack of shipping information from Vladivostok unsatisfactory.
(C.in C. China 0300Z/23 to Admty.).

/TOMISLAV....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China. -Contd.

TOMISLAV (?Italian). My 0821/21. Funnel now painted black and name painted out.
(C.O.I.S. Singapore 0301Z/23 to Admty. etc.).

Free French Movements. Your 1637/20. I find it difficult to be more convincing than I was in my 0827/6. Escarra is now here and is (?reporting) to (?De Gaulle). Can only suggest you read his report in conjunctior with that of Chancellor Duchy of Lancaster which is now in London. I am anxious to transfer control Free French before turning over to C.in C. Eastern Fleet.
(C.in C. China 0337Z/23 to Admty.).

PRINCE ROBERT and PIERRE L.D. Your 1921/22. PRINCE ROBERT left Manila 21st and is too far to eastward to make it worth while recalling her, particularly as I have no information that PIERRE L.D. has yet left Haiphong.
(C.in C. China 0415Z/23 to Admty.) See also A. and W.I. (?Weekly) report PIERRE L.D. left for Saigon A.M./22.
(C.O.S. Singapore 1237Z/23 to Admty. etc.).

Suspicious ship 6/11. Your 2359Z/21. Vessel was not Raider "C". Description appears to fit Raider G, No.41. Believed to be STEIERMARK of Hapag line 9,400 tons 524 feet length. (Details). Last located in South Atlantic May 1941, with Raider C.
(D.D.I.C. 1811A/23 to Capt. O.S. Singapore).

U/B 14/11. Two coast watching stations in Burma report sighting object resembling submarine in 017° 19' N. 094° 33' E. steering west on 14/11. Graded B.3.
(D.N.I. 1938A/23 to S.O. Force G).

America and West Indies.

CINCINNATI search. My 2330/21. Result Saturday search negative. CINCINNATI proceeding Trinidad.
(Opnav 0030Z/23 to Admty.).

/PRINCE.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

PRINCE ROBERT and PIERRE L.D.	Concur with Admty. 1921A/22. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0031Z/23 to C.in C. China). See also China.
ILE D'OUESSANT ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER.	Your 2048A/22. Request information that French Ships ILE D'OUESSANT and ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER are still to be seized if met. Request policy as regards seizure of other French ships on transatlantic voyages. (C.in C. A.W.I. 0942Q/23 to Admty.) Reply: A.C.N.S. (F) 0015A/24.
DESPATCH	To leave Bermuda 0900Q/24 and proceed to patrol square F.32, B.49. Leave patrol 30/11 and return to Bermuda. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1102Q/23 to S.O. W. Indies Force).
CIRCASSIA.	Admty. 2048A/22. Leave patrol 1200Z/29 and proceed Halifax. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1052Q/23 to CIRCASSIA).
MEROPE (French).	Departure Tuxpan 19th MEROPE Port Au Prince Puerto Mexico 20th. (Tampico 1152/23 to D.of S.T.).
WESTMOOR collision.	British WESTMOOR in collision with U.S. tanker GULFMIST off Eastport in Saint John River while approaching Jacksonville Harbour during fog, both ships now aground. (Jacksonville 1450Z/23 to Admty.). My 1450Z/23. Both ships now floating and arrived Jacksonville. Collision occured during clear but black night. 2 small holes in WESTMOOR port side number 1 hold. (Jacksonville 1818Z/23 to Admty.).
SNARK.	Have you any news of Panamanian SNARK due Colon 13/11 from New York? (D.T.D. 1722A/23 to S.O.I. Jamaica).
Neutral ships calling Bermuda.	Your 1801/20. Port and date, but not time of departure can and will be given. Ref. (D) local agents of lines would normally be able to estimate time on passage better than Admty. In the case of ships that have made a previous voyage it is presumed that C.C.S.O. will also be able to give this information. (D.E.W.D. 1931A/23 to C.in C. A.W.I.).

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. -Contd.

Convoy C.T.6.	Following U.S. Comtask Group 14.3 despatch 1735/23 to Opnav. My 1042/23 (N.T. in W.R.) on the basis of passing south of Sable Island ships of C.T.6. arrive Halifax about 1800 GCT/24 Other vessels of convoy proceeding independently. Vessels wish to know whether disembarkation will be initiated on arrival date. (Opnav, 1944Z/23 to N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.).
DESPATCH CIRCASSIA.	Bermuda arrival DESPATCH, Bermuda departure CIRCASSIA in accordance with A.M. 2048A/22/11. (C.in C. A.W.I. 2105Q/23 to Admty.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.11.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1924Z/22. 1910Z/22.	Indications at 1924Z/22 of a U-boat within 100 miles of 003° S., 018° W., 85 % reliable, and at 1910Z/22 of a U-boat within 100 miles of 008° N., 031° W., 65% reliable. (C. in C.S.A., 0021N/23, to S.A. Sqdn.)
	Estimated approximate positions of U/Bs. (D.D.I.C. 1417A/23, 1418A/23.)
Cape Area.	Probable appearance of U/B's. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1812A/23.) See South Atlantic.
Burma.	U/B reported sighted 14/11. (D.N.I., 1938A/23.) See China.

MOST SECRET.

(D

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

E-boat attacks on F.S.54.

Convoy F.S.54 escorted by 4 destroyers, one corvette and 2 M.L's was attacked by 3 E-boats about 0001/24 near 57D Buoy. Tanker VIRGILIA and S.S. BLAIRNEVIS were torpedoed; the former sank the latter reached Yarmouth. WESTMINSTER engaged and drove off the enemy, sinking one or possibly two and damaging the third.
SOUTHDOWN engaged 2 E-boats at about 0240 25 miles 61° from Lowestoft, damaging one and probably both.
The convoy was attacked again at 0445 and S.S. GROENLO was torpedoed and sunk in 52° 19' 32" N. 1° 59' 12" E.
2 M.G.B's were on patrol near 52° N. 2° 30' E. and 2 M.L's near 52° 43' N. 2° 23' E., but apparently did not get into action.

Reorganisation of W.A. forces. Reorganisation of the forces in the Western Approaches Command was carried out today.

Operation "Sunstar". C. in C. Portsmouth reports that all troops were landed (on coast of Normandy) in difficult conditions on account of surf.

Patrol "White" "Black". C. in C. H.F. proposes to allocate the following short titles to surface patrols: Denmark Strait - Patrol White. Iceland-Faeroes Passage - Patrol Black. These patrols are still being maintained by cruisers, to intercept possible enemy forces breaking out into the Atlantic.

British Air Operations.

After an interval due to bad weather Bomber Command last night resumed raids on Continental objectives with attacks on Lorient, Brest and Dunkirk. Coastal Command operated against shipping near Borkum.

MOST SECRET.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy F.N. 61 was bombed at 1607 in 52° 3' N. 1° 49' E. and S.S. ARDENZA was damaged by near miss and proceeded to Lowestoft.

S.S. GREAT WESTERN reported being attacked this afternoon near 52° 8' N. 6° 24' W.
No damage was sustained.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

There was considerable enemy air activity over the Thames Estuary between 1900 and 1950 today and minelaying is suspected.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Bedlam".

S.O. Force H proposes that HERMIONE and destroyers should leave Gibraltar at 0500/27 to search for the Vichy French S.S. ILE DE NOIRMOUTIER and ILE D'OUESSANT which left New York loaded on 15/11 for Casablanca.

MOST SECRET.

D

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

U-boats in South Atlantic.

From various reports received it is evident that German supply ships have sailed recently from French ports and can by now be in the South Atlantic. At least one U-boat has operated as far south as Walvis Bay, and attacks in the Cape area must be expected in the near future. Group sailings of ships escorted by air and surface forces for the first 100 miles were ordered yesterday. Special arrangements are being made for escort of convoys W.S.12X. and W.S.12Z; and 4 Corvettes are to be sent to Capetown from Freetown at once and C. in C. A.W.I. is to send TULIP as soon as she can be spared by INDOMITABLE who is working up in the West Indies. The 4 corvettes sent from Freetown are to be replaced by 4 from Western Approaches.

Mediterranean.

Convoy "Cat" sunk.

Two merchant ships escorted by 2 destroyers were reported leaving the Gulf of Aegina at 1800B/23. Force K (AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE and LIVELY) left Malta at 0115B today. At 1634R S.O. Force K. reported that he had sunk both merchant ships but the two destroyers escaped.

OLYMPUS.

OLYMPUS has sailed from Gibraltar for Malta with stores, including aviation petrol.

China.

SYDNEY missing. Raider sunk.

SYDNEY left position 7° 56' S. 104° 40' E. at 0400Z/17 for Fremantle where she was due on 20/11 but has not yet arrived. C.Z.M. has been asked to search the area south of the Sunda Strait by air.

/S.S.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

SYDNEY missing. Raider sunk. - Contd.

S.S. TROCAS reports that at 0700 today she picked up 25 German naval men on a raft in 24° 6' S. 111° 40' E. She reported later that these were from S.S. COMORON (? KAMERUN) which had been sunk by a cruiser.

America and West Indies.

Interception of French Ships.

In consequence of the suspension by U.S. of supplies for French North Africa all unescorted Vichy ships are to be intercepted except those trading between the West Indies and American continent or in inter-island trade.

S.C. convoy cycle.

C.C.N.F. reports that the present cycle for S.C. convoys is too severe for both ships and personnel, and makes certain proposals.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

W.A.Command. Re-organisation of Forces.
Your 1932A/19. Approved. It being understood that the purpose of this re-organisation is to implement the plan for employment of destroyers in Western Approaches Command as set out in your memo. No. W.A.2688/0770/34 of 11/11/41. (V.C.N.S., 1115A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
Following organisation is to come into force forthwith. (C. in C. W.A., 1120/24).

P.37.
Intend P.37 should join 9th Flotilla on completion of working up about 27/11 in place of P.35 who is sailing shortly for the Mediterranean. (F.O.S., 1323A/24).

SIKH.
A.M.1104A/24. SIKH will be required to sail for Gibraltar on completion of boiler cleaning and defects. (A.C.N.S. H., 1327A/24).

Exercise L.9.
Your 1948A/23. Should craft ex F.14 embarked in PRINCE CHARLES and PRINCE ALBERT for Exercise L.9. now be withdrawn.
(V.A., C.T.C. 1708A/24 to Admty).

Capt. D.3.
As soon as convenient to you Captain D.3. is required for a conference on future operations with A.C.O. Time and date of his arrival in London should be reported.
(Adviser on Combined Ops. 1812A/24 to V.A.2).

Co-operation with Russia.

Fuelling of GOSSAMER.
Submit only small tanker in sight is empty. Understand her to be BUG.
(GOSSAMER, 0021C/24 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Fuel at Murmansk.
S.B.N.O. Archangel 2220C/23. Concur subject to supply for cruisers being kept as low as practicable until decision reached on replenishment. My 1112C/12 refers. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2301C/24 to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

Defence of U.K.

Plymouth A/A Defences.
Admiralty 1553/27/9. RESOLUTION sailed 1700/24.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1819/24).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

SEAWOLF. Negative patrol. Returning along lat. 071° 15' N., thence by route X. E.T.A. 069° 34' N., 034° 10' E. at 1100C/25.
(SEAWCLF, 0500C/24 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).
Your 0500C/24. Delay your arrival at R/V until 1300C/25. Do not attack any warship sighted. SHTORM class destroyer will meet you at R/V.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1752C/24 to SEAWOLF)
SEAWOLF returning from patrol as follows. Has been delayed arrival R/V until 1300C/25.
(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1817C/24 to C.S.10).

?SEAGULL, SPEEDY. (?SEAGULL) SPEEDY arrived at Murmansk.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1110C/24).

ORUC REIS, TURBULENT. Intended to sail TURBULENT and Turkish Sub. ORUC REIS for Clyde 1000A/30. One escort required to arrive Barrow 0900A/29.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1154A/24).

ICARUS. Proceed passing Switha at 1715 today to Hvalfjord. (R.A.D. H.F., 1209A/24 to ICARUS)
My 1209A/24. Amend para. one to read proceed passing Switha at 2330 today to Hvalfjord.
(R.A.D. H.F., 2235A/24 to ICARUS).

P.35
P.37
UNA. (i) C. in C. Med., 1217B/23.
In order to advance dates on which relief submarines join 10th S/M. F. as much as possible, amend para. 1 of F.O.(S) 1312A/20 as follows.
Add P.35 leaving Dundee 6/12. Delete P.37.
(ii) In addition as previously arranged UNA leaves U.K. about 5/12 to arrive Gibraltar about 20/12. having completed second working up patrol on passage. (F.O.S., 1322A/24).

P.511
P.551. Routes to 270° Barra Head 10 miles.
(C. in C. W.A., 1344A/24).

RAMILLIES. Admiralty's 2017A/22 and my 1244/19. Intend to adjust programme to arrive Clyde P.M./2.
(RAMILLIES, 1422/24).

/RESOLUTION....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.11.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

RESOLUTION.	Sailed RESOLUTION escorted by BERKELEY and KUJAWIAK. E.T.A. Scapa 0730/27. (C. in C. Plymouth 1704/24.)
LOBELIA.	Sailed LOBELIA wearing the Flag of A.C. F.N.F. for Iceland. E.T.A. 28/11. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1714A/24).
KENYA.	Sailed Murmansk, 1600C KENYA, BEDOUIN, INTREPID, Russian GREMYASHTCHI, GROMKI. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2033G/24).

Operations.

Convoy F.S.54 attacked by E-boats. VIRGILIA (British Tanker, 5723 tons) sunk. GROENLO (Dutch, 1984 tons) sunk. BLAIRNEVIS (British, 4155 tons) damaged. E-boats: 1 sunk, 1 probably sunk, 1 damaged.	2 ships torpedoed position 108° Cromer 34. (WESTMINSTER, 0011A/24). Have lost touch with enemy E-boat at position 100° Cromer 38. (WESTMINSTER, 0044/24). Have 7 survivors from VIRGILIA. Am rejoining convoy. (VANITY, 0125A/24). My 0011A/24. 3 E-boats A, B, and C, engaged and driven off by WESTMINSTER. A, hit by Oerlikon fire reduced to slow speed and turned North in 52° 46' N., 2° 16' E. B, heavily hit by 4 inch fire disappeared in smoke and was followed by heavy explosion in 52° 49' N., 2° 23' E. C, engaged by 4 inch fire and disappeared to Northwards of 52° 50' N., 2° 24' E. Consider B almost certainly sunk. A, definitely damaged. C, possibly damaged. Other E-boat believed to have been operating in the vicinity. (WESTMINSTER, 0135A/24) 1 E-boat bearing 310° course unknown, position 058 Lowestoft 17. (?VANITY, 0152A/24). 2 E-boats course unknown. My position 070° Lowestoft 18. (SOUTHDOWN, 0213/23). Departure tugs KROOMAN and SUPERMAN at 0220A/24 escorted by M.G.B's 87 and 91 and M.L's 145 and 147 to assist two ships reported torpedoed vicinity Hearty Knoll. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0245A/24) VIRGILIA sunk in about 293° 57 D buoy 1.4. (?VANITY, 0321A/24). Harwich W/T T.O.O. 0451. SOUTHDOWN and WINDSOR proceeding cut off retreat of E-boat. (SOUTHDOWN, 0520A/14). Departure at 0605A/24 Tug RICHARD LEE BARBER with Salvage Officer, to assist vessel torpedoed vicinity Hearty Knoll. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0705A/24).

/Following....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Convoy F.S.54 attacked by E-boats. VIRGILIA (British Tanker, 5723 tons) sunk. GROENLO (Dutch, 1984 tons) sunk. BLAIRNEVIS (British 4155 tons) damaged. E-boats: 1 sunk, 1 probably sunk, 1 damaged. Contd.

Following received begins:- Addressed Yarmouth from Harwich, E-boats bearing 078° from Area W. Ends. 0451A/24). (C. in C. Nore 0845A/24)
Following received:-
VANITY's 0450A and 0602A. Begin:-
(1) From VANITY. Ship torpedoed in about 028° 52 E., Buoy 1 point 5. 0450A/24.
(2) From VANITY. My 0450. S.S. GROENLO torpedoed and believed sunk. Am remaining in vicinity. Have 6 survivors. 0602A/24. Ends. (C. in C. Nore, 0947A/24).
My 0135A/24. Full investigation revealed the following E-boats. "A" at a range of 800 yards was hit and damaged as report. E-boat "B" was observed by 3 observers to receive a direct hit and to blow up a few seconds later. Last range 022.
E-boat "C" making white smoke was then engaged at range of 030. Straddled and began to make black smoke. It turned north and was lost to sight. 20 seconds later a heavy explosion and column of smoke was sighted from its approximate position. Now consider (A) definitely damaged. (B) Definitely sunk. (C) Probably sunk on position explosions were. Closed on return run but everything was completely obscured by heavy pall of dense smoke from burning tanker. (WESTMINSTER, 1055A/24).
About 0001/24. F.S.54 attacked by E-boats 108° 34 miles from Cromer. Steamships VIRGILIA and BLAIRNEVIS hit by torpedoes. Former subsequently sank in approximate position 293° 54D buoy 1 point 4 miles. Latter being towed to Yarmouth Roads. Destroyers engagement with E-boats is given in WESTMINSTER's 0135A/24. Second attack occurred 0445/24, steamship GROENLO torpedoed and sunk in 030° 54E buoy 6 cables. 12 Group sent fighters at daylight towards Dutch coast, no contact reported. (C. in C. Nore, 1150A/24).
Add to my 1150A/24. Two E-boats were engaged by SOUTHDOWN at about 0240/24 in approx. 061° 25 miles from Lowestoft. These E-boats were engaged simultaneously on either side with 4" and close range weapons until Starshell was all expended. One E-boat certainly damaged, the other probably. E-boats last seen in smoke of burning Tanker VIRGILIA. Smoke from Tanker precluded further search. The following forces were operating. With F.S.54 Four Destroyers. One Corvette and Two M.L's. On Patrol vicinity 53° N., 02° 30' E. two M.G.B's (L). On patrol vicinity 52° 43' N., 02° 23' E., two M.L's. (C. in C. Nore, 1840A/24).
BLAIRNEVIS loaded 1370 Standards Timber, now anchored Yarmouth roads, torpedoed. Damage aft. All compartments Aft including Engine Room flooded. SUPERMAN, DIVERSION, RICHARD LEE BARBER standing by with Salvage Officers tonight (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1845A/24)

/Denmark...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Denmark Strait Patrol. — Sailed CUMBERLAND 1145. (A.C.I.C. 1240N/24).

RORQUAL attacked on 19/11. — RORQUAL has nothing to report except that two torpedoes were fired at her by an unidentified vessel in position 45° 56' N., 02° 00' W. at 0300A/19. First torpedo missed ahead, RORQUAL turned towards firing vessel and track of second torpedo passed down starboard side. No enemy vessel was sighted but a lighted fishing vessel was sighted approximately two to three miles in the direction from which the torpedoes came. C.O. does not consider, however torpedoes were fired by the vessel. (F.O.S., 1301A/24).

Patrol Short Titles. — Propose to allocate following short title to surface patrols. Denmark Strait - Patrol white. Iceland Faeroes Passage - Patrol black. (C. in C. H.F., 1314N/24).

Exercise W.A.X.101. — Your 1251A/24. Submarine H.50 available for W.A.X.101. Area A, 1030 - 1530/25th, G.E.T. 1600/25th. (Capt. D. Londonderry, 1538A/24 to VANQUISHER).
My 1439A/23/11 Operation successful. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1912A/24)

Patrols. — Patrol tonight 2 M.G.B's (L) Q.E.8. 2 M.L's Q.E. 6A. (C. in C. Nore, 1951A/24).

Operation "Sunstar". — 1. "Sunstar" carried out.
All troops landed in difficult conditions due to surf. Believed Military operations carried out successfully. Troops carrying out raid not yet returned.
2. M.G.B's returned with A.L.C's 74 and 25 with 1 Officer and 12 O.Rs.
A.L.C.24 with 16 O.Rs. on board known to have only one engine working last seen at sea off beach.
A.L.C.127 believed to have 60 O.Rs. on board not found on beach after thorough search by Col. Saegert in A.L.C.25 and therefore also presumed at sea. Last known in good.condition.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2213/24).

/A/C....

MOST SECRET.

24.11.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C in AUDACITY. — Following is present position 9 I.E. aircraft in 802 Squadron F.A.A.
Request information if any replacement Martlets are being sent to Gibraltar as suggested by my 1315A/15/11. (AUDACITY, 1458A/24).

A/C for ENGADINE. — Your 1106A/23. Ship is now ready to start loading. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1514A/24).

Enemy Air Activity.

Faeroes bombed on 22/11. — My 1813/23. Enemy aircraft dropped 3 single bombs in sea and 1 500 yards from oil tank at Trangisvaag 1025/22. 2 civilian houses damaged. No casualties. O.K.
(O.C. Troops, Faeroes, 1024/24 to War Office)

ROCKABILL attacked. — At about 1600/22 British Coaster ROCKABILL was attacked by aircraft with 3 bombs and machine gunfire about 1200 yards off Rosslare Pier Head. Vessel reported not damaged.
It is stated that the machine guns at Rosslare did not attempt to engage the aircraft.
Attack witnessed from G.W.R. Steamer H. ANTONIA lying in Rosslare.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1430/24).

GREAT WESTERN. — Received 1430 G.M.T. de GREAT WESTERN AAAA off Barrels buoy. At 1433 G.M.T. from GREAT WESTERN off Barrels buoy. Help "Conflict 3".
(Burnham Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 1542/24).

Convoy F.N.61. ARDENZA (British 933 tons) damaged. — Enemy aircraft bombing Convoy "Radio" in 52° 3' N., 1° 49' E. (LEEDS, 1607/24).
My 1607. 4 Bombs, no hit. ARDENZA damaged by near miss, going into Lowestoft KINGSTON OLIVINE escorting. (LEEDS, 1640A/24).

STOKE CITY bombed on 20/11. — Your 1540A/20. Report full particulars and whereabouts of R.N. casualties sustained.
(Head of Naval Branch 1913/24 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

N.L.22. My 1604/23. Operation has been postponed. (V.A. Dover, 1010A/24).

Minelaying Programme. Your 0937N/23. Hope to work to following approximate programme. Details. (R.A.M., 1037/24 to C. in C. H.F.) See Lion Copy.

Tyne. Detonated 2 magnetic ground mines at 0820/24 in 116°. Tyne North Pier Light 1 cable. (N.O.I.C. North Shields 1110/24 and 1715/24)

Yarmouth. Your 331B/41. Following report of mines rendered safe week ending 22/11 is as follows. Details. (R.M.S.O. Gt. Yarmouth, 1619A/24).

Enemy Intelligence.

Destroyer and Escort Vessel. Enemy destroyer with (?convoy) eastbound 070° 58' N., 026° 10' E., 0346C, and same believed off Tanafiord 1445. Escort vessel off Kongsfiord 1450, possibly meeting convoy. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 1629C/24 to C.S.10). By D/F 2138C (?escort Vessel) 071° 05' N., 026° 30' E. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2244C/24 to C.S.10).

Navigational

Sheringham Light Buoy. Commodore of F.N.59 reports at 2330/22 Sheringham Light Buoy extinguished. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1140/24).

Wreck. F.S.55. Wreck dangerous to navigation approx. position 033° 1.3 miles from Hearty Knoll buoy. F.S. 55 is to leave 55 A buoy to starboard thence to pass close west of 54 D buoy. (C. in C. Nore 2141A/24).

Technical.

Direction of Fighter A/C by Ships. Your 1601/19. Concur with proposed arrangement. Would prefer that not more than one fighter should be so employed and that it should be of single engine type. (A.C.O.S., 1305/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Minor...

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical. - Contd.

Minor Warships Recognition Signals.

Your 1624/14. Alternative (2) preferred. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1313A/24).

Casualties & Defects.

KRAKOWIAK.

My 1837/22. The repairs now being carried out on KRAKOWIAK will ensure her being seaworthy until next refit.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0945/24).

M.L.262.
M.L.268.

M.L's 262 and 268 damaged in collision while on patrol. Both boats require slipping. Work cannot be undertaken by Portland Dockyard or Coastal Force Base. Request arrangements may be made for them to be taken in hand elsewhere but as adjacent as possible in view of their condition. It is understood that work could be undertaken by E.R.O. Poole.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1512/24).

RAMSAY (casualty 18/11).

Your 1221/22. Will repairs enable RAMSAY reach Oban for East Coast Port.
(D.T.D., 1637A/24 to U.K. Shipping Adviser, Cork)

ROXBOROUGH.

ROXBOROUGH reports ship can proceed to another port in the British Isles at maximum speed 20 knots without any prior repairs.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1759A/24).

FLORA II.

CAPE WARWICK proceeding to your assistance. Anchor and await her arrival.
(M.A.S. Iceland, 2349/2 to FLORA II).

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.3
CAPE CORSO.

Your 1316A/22. Cdre. reported CAPE CORSO parted from P.Q. three in heavy weather at 1330/11. Ocean escort and WALRUS periodically searched the vicinity of convoy until 20th. CAPE RACE similarly separated was found.
(C.S.10., 0810Z/24 to Admty).
CAPE CORSO arrived. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1640C/24)

/F.N.62....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

F.N.62.
F.S.56
CITY OF
DURBAN.

My 2046/21/11. No A/S trawler available for F.N.62 and F.S.56. A/P VINDELICIA will be available for F.N.62. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1000A /24).
Intend to sail CITY OF DURBAN for Methil with F.N.62 tomorrow for onward passage to Scapa as ordered by C. in C Rosyth. (C. in C. Nore, 1030A/24).

BB.4.

Pass to N.C.S.O's concerned. BB4 ships for Bristol Channel ports have been routed to other destinations. If Bristol Channel ports have not been re-opened request you will pass necessary instructions to Commodore for ships concerned.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1058A/24 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).

STEWARD
and
W.P. Groups.

Until further orders "Steward" and W.P. groups will be sailed from Swansea Bay only.
Commencing tomorrow it is hoped to permit sailings from Ports East of Port Talbot between noon and 1900 daily.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1124A/24).

P.Q.4.

BRAMBLE, SEAGULL, SPEEDY will be in position (?69°) 33' N., 41° East at 0900C/27 and will steer 13° at 10 knots for 4 hours. If not met minesweepers will proceed to R/V off Cape Gorodetski at 0830C/28. M/Ss. S.O. escort to 59 Dvina.
(S.O. 1st M/S.F., 1145C/24 to BERWICK).

P.Q.5.

(i) P.Q.5. SHEFFIELD is S.O.
(ii) Following signal passed for information C. in C. H.F. 1805Z/14. Admiralty 2155A/15, Admiralty 2153A/23.
(iii) H.Y. para 4. Escort signal not yet received. (iv) Available information will be passed before sailing.
(V.A.2., 1225A/24 to SHEFFIELD).
My 1316N/24. Request you sail SHEFFIELD to R/V after refuelling at Seidis Fiord.
(C. in C. H.F., 1318N/24 to V.A.2).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

S.C.55. To ensure S.C.55 is met by destroyer, FOXHOUND is to detail herself or AMAZON to leave convoy at 0800A/25 for Iceland(C). Corvettes on relief at M.O.M.P. are to R/V S.C.55 and sweep within 20 miles of convoy until M.O.M.P. S.C.55 routed through
(q) 055° N., 038° W. (r) 059° 30' N., 025° W. thence M.O.M.P. in 059° 30' N., 023° 30' W., at 1100Z/27. Speed 6½ knots.
(C. in C. W.A., 1235A/24 to Escorts O.N.38).

M/Vs to move at night. Masters of M/Vs proceeding Archangel are to be given written instructions that whilst at anchor in North Russian ports they must move at night if ordered to do so by British or Russian naval authorities. (D.T.D., 1325A/24 to A.C.I.C.)

W.S.14 ESPERANCE BAY. Your 1040A/24 and A.M.1815A/16.
ESPERANCE BAY will now be ready to leave London 28/11.
2. Sailing of W.S.14 is postponed till 6/12.
3. She should be ready to embark troops 4/12.
(D.O.D. H., 1635A/24 to C. in C. Nore).
Following is a repetition of my 1206A/22.
Begins:- Admiralty 1815A/16 para. 3.
Intend after sailing ESPERANCE BAY escorted by WANDERER for Clyde at 0830/27.
WANDERER will carry out S.A. sweeping ahead whilst on passage. Escort advance 15 knots and estimated arrival Clyde P.M./30 Ends.
(C. in C. Nore, 1843A/24).

VIRGILIA

F.S.54. F.S.54 arrived except THORE HAFTE, BLAIRNEVIS,/ and GROENLO reported torpedoed.
REGIN reported returned to Tees.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1711/24).

Convoy C.T.7. BELMONT. SHERWOOD returned with defect.
(ii) Sail BELMONT 25/11 to Halifax. Route (A) 055° N., 021° W. (B) 53° N., 35° W. (C) 47° N. 51° W. (iii) Admiralty 2027A/20.
BELMONT, GARLAND will escort AGAMEMNON, CALIFORNIA to U.K.
(C. in C. W.A., 2154A/24 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Vichy Ships Operation "Bedlam"

Your 0036/22. To cover speeds between 11½ and 7 knots - intend air search to cover area within positions,
(a) 033° 25' N. 017° 50' W.
(b) 033° 44' N. 017° 27' W.
(c) 036° 19' N. 022° 28' W.
(d) 034° 00' N. 022° 52' W.
during daylight hours 25 to 30/11 inclusive.
(ii) Surface forces to be at 2 hours notice from A.M./25 and sail from Gibraltar at 0500/27 to search to westwards within area bounded on East by 200 circle from Casablanca and on North and South by lines drawn 278° from 032° 45' N. 012° 23' W. and 035° 04' N. 012° 00' W. S.O.A. during daylight 16 knots, retiring by night at S.O.A. 9 knots.
(iii) Destroyers leave search P.M./30.
(iv) HERMIONE backed up by aircraft continues search until P.M.1/12.
(v) Prize crews provided ex ARK ROYAL.
(S.O. Force H. 1105A/24 to Admty.).
Carry out operation "Bedlam".
(ii) Ships left New York 15/11 for Casablanca loaded. Assume fastest speed 11½ knots, slowest 7 knots.
(1st S.L. 1636A/24 to F.O. Force H.).

Germans in Casablanca.

At least 100 Germans were seen in uniform in Casablanca on 21/11. They were from all branches of the army and air force. A.1. This report from absolutely reliable Portuguese Capt. trading with Casablanca. He has never seen any uniformed Germans except an odd 1 or 2 on previous voyages.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1500/24 to Admty.).
N.I.D. Comment. According to other reports:-
(i) German members of Armistice Commission in Morocco donned uniform on 18/11 with authority to make arrests (graded B.1.).
(ii) Three aeroplanes arrived in Casablanca on 23/11 bringing 50 uniformed and armed Germans (Graded B.2.).

French shipping.

Passing Gib. eastbound at 1639/24. (D.O.R. 26/11).

French Ketch intercepted.

0722 Arfar. French Auxiliary Ketch in ballast from Douarnenez to fishing ground off Cape Blanco. Brought in by armed guard. Conditions similar to my 0716 Arfar. (re Vichy French Ketch BELLE BRETAGNE). Request instructions.
(C.C.S.O. Gibraltar 1758/24 to M.E.W.).

/Your.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Ketch intercepted -Contd.

Your 1135/23. Report particulars of BELLE BRETAGNE stating endurance on engine alone.
Similar report required on Ketch PANCEITE ANNIK (?PETITE ANNIE). (Vide SCOTTISH 1900/21 to F.O.C.N.A.) on her arrival.
(D.E.W.D. 1817A/24 to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar).

OLYMPUS
O.21.

OLYMPUS left Gibraltar 1830/24 through 36° 25' 002° 00' west, 38° 00' 002° 30' east, 38° 20' 9° 00' east, 10½ knots, diving by day on 25th.
(2) W.M.P.11 para 10. Your return route is that given in Capt. S.8's 1334A/9 para. 1.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1906A/24 to O. 21.).
OLYMPUS sailed for Malta with stores including aviation petrol. Estimate she will pass through 38° 20' 09° 00'. E. about 0600A/28. Request you will inform OLYMPUS of onward route and arrange necessary bombing restriction.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1908A/24 to V.A. Malta).

ARGUS

Your 2155A/22. Approved.
(2). Work should be taken in hand forthwith.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1934A/24 to F.O. Force H.).

South Atlantic.

Survivors from raider sunk by DEVONSHIRE, 22/11.

My 2324/22.
Small craft is not to be sent.
(1st S.L. 0138A/24 to C.in C. S.A.).

SOUTHWOLD
DULVERTON

Your 0018A/20. Can a decision now be given about SOUTHWOLD and DULVERTON ?
(C.in C. S.A. 0925N/24 to Admty). (See 1723/24) and also C.in C. Med. 1714B/24).

W.S. 12 X

Departure 23/11 AURICULA local escort W.S. 12 X.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1235N/24 to Admty.).

/German.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.- Contd.

German supply ships. From various reports received it is evident German supply ships have sailed recently from French ports and can now be in South Atlantic. Probable ex fruit ships and not tanker type. (C.in C. S.A. 1425N/24 to S.A. Stn.).

BULOLO Your 1201/16 BULOLO arrived 1230 G.M.T./24 . 24 hours extension approved for mechanical defects.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1546Z/24 to S.O.I. Montevideo)

W.S.12 Z. A.M. 1855/18 para 13, and A.M. 1812/23.
Whole convoy W.S. 12 Z is to proceed to Durban direct giving the Cape a wide berth.
2. Request you will arrange for MILFORD and BRIDGEWATER to accompany convoy as far as Cape and for DULVERTON and SOUTHWOLD to provide as much A/S escort to this as fuelling arrangements will allow.
3. Expect ROYAL SOVEREIGN will require fuel at Capetown and relief ocean escort will be necessary as far as Durban.
4. On completion of fuelling at Cape-
(a) ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to rejoin Convoy.
(b) DULVERTON and SOUTHWOLD are to be sailed to Mediterranean at best speed.
(c) MILFORD and BRIDGEWATER are to act as ordered by you but it appears probable that they will be required similarly to escort W.S.14.
5. Realised that above arrangements will strain Durban facilities. If necessary, other ships must be sent to sea during visit of W.S. 12 Z.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1723A/24 to C.in C. S.A.) See also 1721A/24, America and West Indies.

CANTON DUNEDIN Steer for Southern half of I 34 B with all convenient despatch. Report your p.c. and s. and percentage of fuel remaining.
(C. in C. S.A. 1801N/24 to CANTON, DUNEDIN).
W.D. Note. No reply apparently received from DUNEDIN, which on 25/11 was reported missing.
Your 2100Z/24 (N.T. in W.D.). Your course should be approx. 130°. Position being repeated.
(C.in C.S.A. 2155Z/24 to CANTON).
My 1809 N 24. Steer for Southern half of I 34 B.
C.in C. S.A. 2157N/24 to CANTON, DUNEDIN).
My 2100Z/24. Present course 125° 15 knots for I 34 B.
(CANTON 2330Z/24 to C.in C. S.A.).

/Beaufort.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. -Contd.

Beaufort Aircraft.

When in South Africa I was informed that up to 18 Beaufort Aircraft for S.A.A.F. Coastal Flights were expected very shortly. F.O.I.C. Simonstown reports there is no news of their arrival. Request position may be ascertained from Air Ministry urgently.
(C.in C.S.A. 1807N/24 to Admty.).

Corvettes for Capetown.

A.M. 2329/23.
1. Decided that 5 corvettes are required for service at Capetown immediately.
2. To implement this decision, C.in C. S.A. is requested to transfer to Capetown, without awaiting relief, 4 corvettes from Freetown preferably to be chosen from those fitted with R.D.F.
3. C.in C. A.W.I. is requested to transfer TULIP to Capetown as soon as she can be spared by INDOMITABLE.
4. In order to maintain strength of the Freetown Force, C.in C. W.A. is requested to transfer 4 corvettes to C.in C. S.A. as soon as possible.
5. C's in C. are requested to signal their intentions for effecting these transfers.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1824A/24 to C.in C. S.A. C.in C. A.W.I. C.in C. W.A.).

22nd A/S Group.

My 1245/28/6 period of loan of 22nd A/S Group to Mediterranean was extended for 6 months only expiring December 1941. Request very early instructions whether Union Govt. should be approached for further extension. Anticipate they will agree.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1937B/24 to Admty.).

SOUTHWOLD
DULVERTON
ALBATROSS
QUEEN EMMA
PRINCESS BEATRIX.

Answer to your 0925/24 is given in A.M. 1723/24 (neither to all addressees).
2. A.M. 1252/17 para 4. Sailing of ALBATROSS QUEEN EMMA and PRINCESS BEATRIX is to be delayed until escort can be provided.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1942A/24 to C.in C. S.A.).

DORSETSHIRE.

E.T.A. 1400N/25. Request Boom at 1500.
(DORSETSHIRE 1951Z/24 to C.in C. S.A.).

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Mediterranean.

SOKOL. Leave patrol forthwith direct for 035° 51' 015° 15' to arrive Malta 0730B/27.
(Capt. S.10 0010B/24 to SOKOL).

Enemy Units. My 0009B/24. 2 Merchant ships, 2 destroyers, sighted 037° 26' 024° 03' course 210°, speed (?7) knots at 1800B/23.
(Capt. S.1. 0021B/24 to THUNDERBOLT).
1 Merchant ship 2 destroyers, 032° 15' 015° 30' course (?340°) at 1300B/23.
(Capt. S.1. 0029B/24 to UNBEATEN).

Force K. Departure 23/11 AURORA, PENELOPE, LANCE, LIVELY.
(V.A. Malta 0115B/24 to Admty.).

SOKOL TRUSTY. 0010B/24 from Capt. (S) 10. If you have any torpedoes remaining patrol in vicinity 036° 45' 020° 40' until 1800B/24 to intercept 2 southbound 6 knots tankers about 1200B/24. TRUSTY patrol in vicinity 037° 10' 020° 30' with same object.
(Capt. S.1. 0209B/24 to SOKOL).

TORBAY Cruisers and destroyers leave harbour 0400B today at high speed course 298°. Remain on surface till they have passed,
(Capt. S.1. 0247B/24 to TORBAY).

Enemy convoy. Position of enemy convoy 232 Matapan 70 at 0800.
(Hal Far 0700Z/24 to F.O.2 Med.).

CARLISLE. What is your position (corrupt group)?
(FLAMINGO 0738B/24 to CARLISLE).

FARNDALE. Rejoin GLENROY.
(C.in C. Med. 0820/24 to FARNDALE).

Enemy Units. One destroyer, one tanker, one flying boat, sighted in 037° 13' N. 020° 27' E. course (corrupt group)° speed 9 knots.
(TRUSTY 0830B/24 to S.1 S.10).

PARRAMATTA C.in C. Med's. 0805/24. (N.T. in W.D.). Proceed with despatch to join Capt. (D) 7 and destroyers with CARLISLE stowing GLENROY. In position at 0800/24 031° 36' N. 027° 14' E. FLAMINGO and Fleet tug ST. ISSEY should have joined also.
(R.A. Alexandria 0904B/24 to PARRAMATTA).

/Your.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

PARRAMATTA -Contd.	Your 0904/24. Intend to proceed 1200B/24. (PARRAMATTA 1015B/24 to R.A. Alexandria).
Enemy Cruiser.	One enemy cruiser 036° 16' 020° 22' at 0800B/24 course 343°, speed 18 knots. (Capt. S.1. 0921B/24 to THRASHER P.31). My 0921B/24. Enemy altered course at 1345B to 320°. (Capt. S.1. 1611B/24 to THRASHER P.31).
7 D.F. HASTY FARNDALE	7th D/F HASTY return to Alexandria with all despatch. FARNDALE rejoin CARLISLE. (C.in C. Med. 0955B/24 to Alexandria C and C.O. etc).
UNBEATEN.	Proceed to operate in are D. 1 until P.M./26 then leave through 033° 00' 015° 00' 034° 10' 014° 30' and 035° 34' 014° 10' to arrive Malta 0730B/28. (Capt. S.10, 1011B/24 to UNBEATEN).
GLENROY sinking.	Following (?transferred) from Capt. (D) 7. N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh from Capt. (D) 7. CARLISLE is trying to beach GLENROY who is sinking T.O.O. 0954. (S.O. Force I. 1015B/24 to C.in C. Med.).
Force K.	From 033° 51' 020° 16' search in 047° direction. (ii) Contact may be made at about 1430B. (V.A. Malta 1017B/24 to S.O. Force K.).
Enemy Units.	P.C. and S. of 2 enemy merchant vessels, 2 destroyers, course 239°, speed 5 knots, position P.D.A.E. 4022. (35-40, longitude indecypherable). (Med A/C 7 Q.B.F. 1040B/24 to Med. A/C 6 F.J.). 2 merchant vessels 5,000 tons (?R) D.R.N. 231 5 knots (35.40 N. 22.22 E.). Fighter escort aircraft attacked, returning. (71 Sqdn. F., 1042/24 to 130 Sqdn.).
UPHOLDER SOKOL UTMOST.	UPHOLDER leaves Malta P.M./24 through 037° 00' 015° 37' to operate off Augusta before arriving Del Armi A.M./26. Leave patrol P.M./25 for 037° 00' 016° 30'. SOKOL approaching Malta from E.N.E. and anticipated positions 1900B/26 are: UTMOST 036° (?20') (?015°) (?10') SOKOL 035° 57' 015° 58' both thence through 035° 51' 015° 15' to arrive Malta 0730B/27. Submarines encountered during night of 26/27 are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10 1117B/24 to UTMOST).

PERSEUS.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

PERSEUS. PERSEUS will be ready for patrol P.M./26. (Capt. S.10 1125B/24 to Capt. S.1.).

TRUSTY SOKOL. Operational submarine Sanctuaries established as follows:- (1) Within 10 miles of 037° 10' 020° 30' for TRUSTY and 036° 45' 020° 40' for SOKOL.
(2) Safety route 10 miles either side line between latter position and 035° 51' 015° 15' for 1800B/24 until 0001B/27.
(V.A. Malta 1145B/24 to S.O. Force K.).

Enemy warships. Course and speed of 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers are 110° 16, 34.40 N. 20.11 E.
(Med. A/C 1200/24).

GLENROY CARLISLE transferred tow to (corrupt group) off Mersa Matruh Entrance and proceeding Alexandria with Hunt E.T.A. 1800/24. FLAMINGO remaining to take rest of crew. All possible lighters and tugs will be brought into Mersa Matruh.
(S.O. Force I. 1209B/24 to C.in C. Med.).
GLENROY hit by aircraft torpedo in 031° 40' N. 026° 28' E. 1620/23. Engine room and number 5 hold flooded. CARLISLE took her in tow, but at 1000/24 in 031° 34' 027° 20' reported GLENROY appeared likely to sink and that she was close shore to endeavour to beach ship. No casualties. One and possibly both attacking aircraft shot down by fighter escort.
(C.in C. Med. 1216B/24 to Admty.).

Movements. Departure 23/11 COCKER, PROTEA, HEYTHROP YARRA, SALVIA, ST. ISSEY, FLAMINGO (?Greek destroyer ASPIS) Arrival 23/11 TORBAY. Departure 24/11 MAGNOLIA, KINGSTON, KIMBERLEY, HOTSPUR, AJAX, EURYALUS, NAIAD, GALATEA, NEPTUNE.
(S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1217B/24).

Ships from Black Sea. Your 2332/20 no suitable persons available locally but I (corrupt group) 4 sent to Egypt which should suffice if upon arrival Famagusta they are returned here quickest possible route.
(Beyoglu, 1224B/24 to C. in C. Med).

/Black....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Black Sea Situation. Your 1940A/15 just received. Signals were despatched by me to Admty via C. in C. Med., on 7/11, 12/11, 17/11.
Situation report. Mazatlan which is only area in Crimea in Russian hands is holding out under difficult conditions. When Kerch was evacuated majority of men tanks and guns crossed safely but considerable quantity of motor transports had to be abandoned. Terrain on mainland opposite to Kerch suitable for defence but German advance in Rostov area makes whole situation precarious.
Facilities in Black Sea for repairing damaged ships already seriously reduced. There is also a shortage of (?coal) for merchant vessels. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1304C/24 to Admty).

GLENEARN. Your 1342Z/23. Request early report whether (A) Spare blades can be shipped to Aden (B) if so time required (C) Ship fit to resume tow when blades fitted. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1321B/24 to N.O.I.C. Aden).

S/Ms for 10th Flotilla. 1. C. in C. Med., 1217B/23. In order to advance the dates on which relief submarines join 10th Flotilla as much as possible, para.1 of F.O.S. 1312A/20 should be amended as follows: Add P.35 leaving Dundee 6/12. Delete P.37.
2. In addition as previously arranged UNA leaves U.K. about 5/12 to arrive Gibraltar about 20/12 having completed second working up patrol on passage. (F.O.S., 1322A/24 to Admty).

Libya. Military Situation Reports. (C. in C. M.E. to W.O. 1435/24, 1556/24*)See Lion Copy. *1910/24.

UPHOLDER, UPRIGHT. UPHOLDER leaves 35° 51' 15° 15' about 2000B/24 on course 20° S/Ms. encountered on opposite course are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.10., 1530B/24 to UPRIGHT).
My 1117B/24 and my 1530B/24 UPHOLDER delayed 24 hours. (Capt. S.10., 1929B/24 to UPRIGHT)

Gazala bombed. Night 22/23. 8 F.A.A. Albacores bombed Gazala landing grounds destroying large petrol dump. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1536/24).

/TRUANT....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TRUANT. TRUANT sailed 1530B/24 routed from end of searched channel, through 034° 04' 026° 25' 034° 27' 023° 43' thence direct to area B within a radius of 48 miles from Pylos Light, Navarin. (Capt. S.1., 1545B/24 to C. in C. Med).

PARTHIAN. Following received for information PARTHIAN Addressed GENEINA. Alter datum to 36.05 N., 23.02 E., tracks 230 for 80 thence SSGAAAVIS 10 miles, objective Destroyers.
(201 Group H.Q., 1549/24).
Ref. my 1549. For 80 read +E 20 repeat +120 MLS.
(130 Sqdn., 1647/24 to 8 T.A.) (as received)
My 1647. Keep North of 35° N., owing presence our I forces AAA acknowledge.
(V.6 F.J., 1729/24 to 8 T.A.)

M/Vs sunk by Force K. Both Merchant ships of convoy "Cat" sunk. Both Destroyers escaped.
(S.O. Force K., 1634R/24 to V.A. Malta).

Enemy T/Bs. 2 T.B's sighted 1500/24 037° 15' N., 023° 50' E. course and speed 180° 20 knots, may be encountered South of Crete. (C. in C. Med., 1650B/24 to Med.Fleet, Force K.)

SOUTHWOLD, DULVERTON. C. in C. South Atlantic's 0925N/24. Round the Cape please. (C.in C. Med., 1714B/24 to Admty)

Malta Raids. 23/11
1507 Hours 3 R/C aircraft crossed Island.
1704 Hours 4 Bombers approached singly. 1 crossed Coast, bombs land sea, no damage, no interceptions, no sightings.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1730/24)

Syria. Following from Gen. Spears 1522/23/11 for Minister of State. Ref Free French in Syria.
(R.A. Alexandria, 1740B/24 to C. in C. Med).
See Lion Copy.

Enemy Destroyers. P.C. and S. of enemy, 2 Destroyers 35.41 N., 22.22 E., 020° (?15) knots.
(A/C K 7 T.A. 1740/24 to Hal Far).

Submarines. Movements Summary No. 58. (Capt. S.1., 1745B/24)
See Lion Copy.

/M/N....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

M/V Piraeus.	One 5,000 ton Merchant Ship now (?proceeding to) load A/A guns and grain Piraeus expected to leave shortly. (THORN, 1803B/24 to Capt. S.1)
ES PIGUETTE (French).	Arrival 22nd Ballast from Mastaganem. (Valencia, 1914/24, to M. of W.T.)
TRUSTY, THUNDERBOLT.	Establish patrol as in my 2021B/22, as follows. TRUSTY Area P close within 48 miles of 38° 11' 20° 21' THUNDERBOLT area in S.W. Aegean within 52 miles of Antikithera Light. Operational Sanctuaries established in these 2 areas forthwith. (Capt. S.1., 1917B/24 to TRUSTY, THUNDERBOLT).
Search for Enemy Convoy.	Following received (begins) C. in C. Med., Force "K", Force "B", from 201 Group, A.268, 24/11. Air attack failed to locate. Convoy may have turned round. Sunderland searching North of 35° N., T.O.O. 1726/24 (Ends). (R.A. Alexandria, 1932B/24 to C. in C. Med).
Malta Air Raids.	There were two air raids by day and twenty by night during the period 1st to 20th Nov. Casualties and damage. (Gov. Malta, No T.O.O./24).

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 24.11.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Force G. — PRINCE OF WALES sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 0019Z/24 to Admty., etc.)
ELECTRA, EXPRESS arrived here.
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 1201Z/24 to Admty., etc.)

Persian Gulf, Air Facilities. — Armindia's 17863/G dated 14/11 in reply to C.O.S.173, following are my comments for Chiefs of Staff.
1. Ref. para. 4 above quoted signal, consider Basra area should have at least equal priority with Baghdad in development of air facilities, also see no urgent reason for developing Shiraz.
2. Ref. para. 5, it should also be possible to use stationary R/D.F. at ports no anchorages where short range fighters could give protection. This may to some extent reduce the long range fighter commitment.
3. Ref. C. in C. E.I. 1508Z/16, propose to await C.O.S's decision with regard to air defence against possible Japanese attacks before allotting higher priority to preparation of aerodromes at entrance to Persian Gulf.
4. Agree remainder Armindia's signal.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1503/24 to Air Min.)

China.

MARECHAL JOFFRE (French) — Departure 23rd, Shanghai 27th.
(Manila, 0637Z/24 to D. of S.T.)

KINDIA, PIERRE L.D. (French) — Arrived 24/11.
(A.C.G. Saigon, 1033Z/24 to M. of W.T.)

Eastern Fleet. — A. C. in C. Eastern Fleet is expected to arrive Singapore about 6/12. He will assume duties laid down in para. B of A.T. 1719/28/10 at 0800 local time on the day following his arrival, except that the command and administration of naval forces and establishments at present carried out by C. in C. China will not come under his command until the flag of C. in C. China is struck in accordance with A.T. 1151/3/10 (to C. in C. China only.)

/B. Ref.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Easterr. Fleet (Contd.)

B. Ref. para. F of A.T. 1719/28/10, the following units are to be considered as forming part of the Eastern Fleet:- PRINCE OF WALES (Flag), REPULSE, REVENGE, ELECTRA, EXPRESS, ENCOUNTER, JUPITER, and such other units of the China Station as desired by C. in C. Eastern Fleet.
(Head of M., 1139A/24 to A.I.G.21, A.I.G.15.)

PIERRE L.D. (French)

My 1237/23. PIERRE L.D. arrived Saigon 24/11.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 1332Z/24 to Admty.)

Germans picked up by TROCAS.

A.C.N.B's 0617/24. Following received from S.S. TROCAS at 0700 today Monday (begins) - Picked up 25 German Naval men floating raft require guards immediately. Position 024° 06' S. 111° 40' E. (ends). Confirmed TROCAS should have been in this position.
(C. in C. China, 1432Z/24 to Admty.)
See also Australia 0617/21.)

America and West Indies.

Vichy Shipping.

Your 0942/23. Cancellation of Admty. 1439/21 and 1702/21 was for operational reasons and did not indicate change of policy. In consequence of suspension by U.S. of supplies for Africa all unescorted Vichy ships subject to the exceptions in para. 2 should if met be sent into British port, preferably Bermuda or Trinidad.
2. (a) Ships trading between West Indies and American continent or in inter-island trade should not be interfered with.
(b) LEOPOLD L.D. and ILE DE RE are westbound with cargo for U.S. and should not be interfered with if still proceeding westward.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 0015A/24 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ORANGELEAF, DIOMEDE.

My 09120/21. Oiler ORANGELEAF has developed defects and has been ordered to Jamaica. DIOMEDE programme unchanged, arriving Balboa p.m./10/12 and will probably require fuel. B.A.D.Washington is requested to arrange.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 08520/24 to Admty., etc.)

/ROXBOROUGH.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

ROXBOROUGH. Request arrangements be made if possible for extensive refit of ROXBOROUGH to be carried out in U.S.A. (Principal items of defects.) Estimated time in hand about four months. With present demand on repair yards in U.K. it would be of greatest assistance if U.S. Authorities would take this work in hand. Ship can sail forthwith.
(D. of D., 1341A/24 to B.A.R.M.)

O.N.38. My 1527/21. Substitute GALT for ARVIDA who did not arrive Iceland with escort Unit 4.1.14.
(Opnav, 1442/24 to Admty.)

MACLAREN. Your 1850/18. MACLAREN has not yet arrived Tampa.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1507Z/24 to Admty.)

O.N.39. O.N. 39 designation 4.1.4 PLUNKETT (Senior) LIVERMORE, BADGER, DECAUTER, COLE and CAMPBELL.
(Opnav, 1556Z/24.)

SNOWBERRY, ARROWHEAD. My 0024Z/22. Regret SNOWBERRY and ARROWHEAD will arrive about a week late. Amended date of arrival will be proposed as soon as known.
(C.C.N.F., 1629Z/24 to B.A.R.M.)

AGAMEMNON. My 1248R/21. Date is now amended to 25/11.
(B.A.R.M., 1710R/24 to Admty.)

W.S.12X, Z, Escort to Cape, U/B Threat. A.M. 1812/23.
We are of opinion that U-Boats may be in Capetown area by about 4/12. As sufficient suitable local A/S escorts are not available to escort a convoy into Capetown we are ordering W.S.12Z, which is 3 days behind W.S.12X, to proceed to Durban without calling at Capetown.
2. We feel very anxious concerning W.S.12X proceeding to Capetown without destroyer escort and the alternatives appear to be -
(a) To give Capetown a wide berth and proceed to Durban: or
(b) U.S. Destroyers escort W.S.12X into and out of Capetown.
We realise that it may not be practicable for Adm. Stark to arrange for destroyers now with W.S.12X to continue escort as far as Capetown.

/3. Request.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

W.S.12X, Z, Escort to Cape, U/B Threat. (Contd.)

3. Request you inform Adm. Stark of these facts and inform us which alternative he prefers. If he prefers (a) we should be very grateful if U.S. cruiser escort could take W.S.12X as far as Durban.
4. A similar difficulty will arise over LEONARD WOOD and it would be very much appreciated if she could be escorted direct to Durban.
(1st S.L., 1721A/24 to B.A.D.)

World Control of Shipping.

Notification received that U.S. C.N.O. believes sufficient experience has been gained for a working agreement for world wide control and protection of shipping to be prepared in anticipation of bringing into effect annex V of A B C - 1. Decision as to bringing this into effect, both routeing and protection, is Political, and there may be objection at present, especially to latter. U.S. C.N.O. however proposes discussion which should be exploratory and confined to Military aspects.
2. I will discuss problem at N.S.H.Q. Ottawa and report. Meanwhile Navy Dept. letter is being sent by bomber mail.
(B.A.D., 1801R/24 to Admty.)
Full text of communication.
(B.A.D., 1631R/26) See Lion Copy.

JULES VERNE, Dakar, suspected U/B fuelling.

Your 1845/16. Dakar 22/11. A.1. JULES VERNE has been to sea on a number of occasions since 22/9 and on one occasion for two days. According to Naval Officers she takes part in Vichy submarine manoeuvres. Consul-General states that JULES VERNE carries 260 officers and men and considered were JULES VERNE actually refuelling U-Boats fact would become known to him.
(B.A.D., 1805R/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

ODENWALD, Cargo.

Your 1959/19. Preliminary report shows cargo consisted of automobile tyres and crude rubber, other items not specified. Tyres bore tags purporting to show despatch from Goodrich International Rubber Co. Manila to B.F.Goodrich Rubber Co. Shanghai. ODENWALD sailed from Yokohama to her capture without stopping.
(B.A.D. Washington, 1931R/24.)

/U.S. Liaison....

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

U.S. Liaison. Your 2027/19. This matter has already been discussed with U.S. Authorities. One Officer will be available mid-January for A.M. and an Officer for B.M. will be appointed as soon as available, at a later date.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1946Z/24 to Admty.)

Dakar, Shipping Intelligence. Meter. Dakar 20/11 (A.2.)
PORT DE BOUC arrived with 2000 tons and ST.MAXIME with 11000 drums of 92 Octane aviation spirit for use of new French Military aircraft which are expected.
22/11 (A.1.) Following ships sailed 21/11 under strong escort for Casablanca - PROVIDENCE, ERIDAN, PORTHOS, and CONDE.
(B.A.D., 1957R/24 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

Newfoundland Escort Force. C.C.N.F. reports that present cycle for S.C. convoys is too severe for both ships and personnel. He recommends that - (A) unless M.O.M.P. is close to Iceland, escort may proceed at S.O's discretion from M.O.M.P. to Londonderry or Clyde for fuel. This may be preferable at the time due to prevailing N. or N.W. winds; and
(B) Reorganization of Newfoundland Escort Force into eight groups to allow for longer period of rest, repair and training between escort duties.
2. Request your remarks on (A) and (B) observing that (B) will probably reduce number of ships in escort groups to six.
3. Newfoundland Escort Force at present consists of eight R.C.N. and five R.N. Destroyers (including READING in U.K.), 44 R.C.N., 7 R.N. and 3 Free French Corvettes.
4. Eventual disposition of H.M.C. Corvettes will be 60 to Newfoundland Force (including three under training at Tobermory.) Hoped this number will be available early in 1942.
5. It is observed that U.S. Escort Forces are organized into eight groups of 5 Destroyers each.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2049Z/24 to Admty. Amended 0151Z/26.)

DESPATCH. Amend my 1102Q/23 (N.T. in W.D.) as follows:-
Leave Bermuda 25/11. Leave patrol 1/12.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2142Q/24 to DESPATCH.)

/INDOMITABLE.....

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America and West Indies - Contd.

INDOMITABLE. Kingston arrival INDOMITABLE. B.A.D. pass to B.A.R.M.
(Capt. i/c. Jamaica, 2300R/24 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Australia.

SYDNEY overdue. H.M.A.S. SYDNEY left 007° 56' S. 104° 40' E. at 0400Z/17 for Fremantle due 20/11. SYDNEY not yet arrived. C Z M has been asked to search the area South of Sunda Strait by air.
(A.C.N.B., 0617Z/24 to Admty.)
See also China, 1432Z/24.)

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Transmission at 0819/24 G.M.T. indicates that U-boat is in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1102A/24, to Escorts, O.S.12.)

Estimated approx., positions of U-boats.
(D.D.I.C., 1434A/24, 1435A/24.)

Capetown Area. — See America & West Indies, 1721A/24.

Submarines Attacked.

By M.L.173. — Motor Launch No. 173 had 1 firm contact and dropped all his depth charges. No one elsewhere has been in contact. Am searching straits with COWSLIP and ARCTIC RANGER.
(MAORI, 1759/24, to F.O.C.N.A.)

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ENDING OF

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ONI

DATE: 16 April 1946

MACH. NO. 475

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